

HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

2005



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HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF
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Presidential Address

To the 130th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society
Adyar, 26 December 2005

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome all of you to this 130th International Convention at Adyar, and I wish you a very happy and inspiring time while you are here. Let us rise to invoke the blessing of our elder Brethren, who are ever ready to guide and help those who are unselfishly dedicated to the good of other living beings:

May those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with their help and guidance this Society, founded to be a channel for their work. May They inspire it with their Wisdom, strengthen it with their Power, and energize it with their Activity.

The future of the Theosophical Society is a matter of very real concern to all of us who are committed to its ideals and work, and who realize that the Society exists in order to awaken human beings to their own higher and real nature, and thus usher in a 'new age' of Universal Brotherhood and deep awareness of true values. Although the words 'new age' are being bandied about a great deal all over the world, there is little general awareness of the need for a profound change in human consciousness, which alone can ameliorate world conditions and illumine the individual mind with the light of love and wisdom.

We are conscious that a way must be found out of the pervasive state of violence, hatred and spiritual ignorance (*avidyā*) which darkens the world, but how can we set our feet firmly on the path leading to peace, love and true knowledge? I suggest that in this context we

must begin by asking not only whether we are alive to the truths of Theosophy, but whether we are alive at all and, if we are, how alive are we? Let us examine the meaning of the related words 'survive', 'live' and 'be alive'. Often the meaning seems to be blurred and the words interchangeable. Clarity on this matter is crucial to understanding whether we are alive to the truths of Theosophy.

Nature herself has incorporated into every living creature, great and small, an irresistible instinct to survive. This instinct makes the ant and the mite turn away from an impediment or bite when necessary; it enables creatures to camouflage themselves, burrow into the earth for shelter and learn the craft of escaping danger as well as the art of looking after their young. In human beings also the survival instinct exists and serves a purpose. It is natural for us to avoid a snake or a brigand with a gun or step aside when a coconut comes

hurtling down from the top of a tree. This instinct is natural and right, because every living thing must survive for a reasonable period of time to facilitate evolutionary changes and for the species itself to fulfil its mission and role within the framework of the vast design of Nature. It is also by the purposeful plan of evolution that the outstandingly clever brain of the human being has developed from the stage of lowly bacteria, or perhaps from scratch.

Now, this same clever human brain is converting — or shall we say distorting — the necessary but unconscious desire ‘to keep body and soul together’ into an aggressive and destructive urge that does not stop short of suicidal activities such as warfare and devastation of our habitat, this earth. Once when J. Krishnamurti had a discussion in Mumbai with a group of bright young men from the Institute of Technology and presented to them his views, one of the students said: ‘If we follow what you say, we will not be able to survive.’ Krishnamurti simply replied: ‘Don’t survive!’, because the survival idea has been blown up to justify unscrupulous competition, ruthless ambition and achieving a high style of living — staying or eating in five-star hotels and proudly paying Rs.150 for two idlis (steamed rice cakes) which can be got outside for Rs.15 or much less. There are, sadly, millions of people in this world who are not able even to survive in the ordinary sense of the term, nor equipped to ward off hunger, malnutrition, homelessness and other forms of suffering. The so-called desire to survive of the relatively rich upper class

promotes utter callousness and selfishness, and prevents our being part of a sharing world.

The word ‘living’, as contrasted with ‘surviving’, suggests a certain enhancement of existence in the physical body to a higher level through what we call culture. Extreme poverty, a seriously handicapped body and damage to the brain are among causes that make people survive but not live, as we are aware. Living at the human stage is not a matter of eating, drinking and making merry, because the human consciousness holds within itself the potential for unlimited expansion into subtler levels of experience and understanding. But the primitive human becomes civilized through devotion to art and music, the pursuit of science and investigation of stars, atoms and a myriad other aspects of the universe, and through philosophy as well as philanthropy. These activities cannot be considered luxuries, being ways to elevate the quality of our mental and other faculties. From this point of view, living is altogether different from surviving or spending time in accumulating material possessions and finding gratification for the senses.

Then what do we mean by ‘being alive’, and particularly being alive to truth and beauty, to significance and sacredness? To my mind, being alive to anything involves sensitive perception, freedom from preconceptions and reactions to what is seen or heard, and therefore an approach that is serene and harmonious. In this way, a person may be alive to all

of life, for example, to the all-pervasive suffering in the world, not only of human beings, but of every other form of life. The normal contacts and relationships that we have with other people, with ideas, with Nature and our surroundings, with even a respected teacher, are generally superficial and shallow. Shallow thoughts and many chaotic feelings obstruct awareness of the significance and implications of what we encounter. For example, we may hear the Lord Buddha's statement about the First Noble Truth — the truth of suffering. Perhaps we agree, or perhaps we dismiss his advice from our mind. But if we are alive to that truth and listen to it with real attention, we cannot drop it and carry on our daily chores in a state of forgetfulness. We will examine the truth from every angle, brood thoughtfully over what the Lord Buddha meant, meditate on why and how our actions, thoughts and emotions give rise to suffering in one form or another, and realize that suffering takes innumerable forms — such as loneliness, frustration, lack of friendliness and so on. We will try to find out what makes us act harshly or cruelly so as to hurt animals, plants or people. Thus that single statement of the Buddha will become the starting point of significant and soul-stirring contemplation.

Being alive to a plant or a flower — and to many other things — would similarly transport our consciousness into ever deeper perception of hidden truths. We would steadily develop a sense of harmony, because we are sounding the deeper levels of being. A person may see

a flower casually or with a certain affection, and say it is lovely. But if he or she were alive to the truth of the flower, or whatever else, it would be impossible not to feel at one with it, in complete harmony with its very being, and that would be the beginning of love. This year a quotation has been included in the Convention programme booklet which draws an analogy between the rising of the sun and learning to love. As the sun's rays light up the world, in all the things of the earth beauty is revealed. When the heart is right, as Thomas à Kempis said, every creature becomes a book of holy scripture, revealing a sacred element which was not apparent earlier. Truth is omnipresent and perennial, but is not visible to our eyes before we open ourselves inwardly and become alive to all of life.

The truths of Theosophy are not theoretical or intellectual propositions; they concern life. Whether we find those truths prosaic and commonplace, intellectually stimulating, morally uplifting, or spiritually enlightening depends entirely on us. A new quality and dimension in our life and relationships might gladden our existence if we learn to be alive to subjects usually listed as part of Theosophical teaching, for example, reincarnation. Realizing the reasonableness of the concept of recurring births as a means for the soul's progress is undoubtedly very useful. It saves people from the dreadful fear of being punished or annihilated. But on more sustained reflection, and perhaps even meditation,

a person begins to see how the process continuously widens the faculties of the reincarnating individual, and brings a sense of universality to the consciousness. It is like the opening of a blossom. From being cooped up in the personality and relating everything to oneself, the consciousness becomes freer and freer to embrace all of life as a part of itself — the One Self. The process of reincarnation exists, but is only a mechanism to awaken the soul, which as the well-known Theosophical truth declares, has a future whose growth and splendour have no limit.

Every Theosophical truth — and I would like to emphasize again that the truths of Theosophy are truths about the nature of life — has a formal side as well as a hidden purpose and significance. Being alive to them has enormous implications. As we grow into greater awareness of the hidden implications and the unplumbed depths of these truths, which are not contradictory or diverse, but part of a total spiritual movement, our way of thinking, behaviour, relationships and aspirations change entirely.

Are we alive to being part of a nucleus of Universal Brotherhood, realizing that a worldwide family of brothers and sisters and close companions, working for a lofty ideal, can be a powerful force in the world? Present on this platform are members from distant as well as nearby places who are all our brothers and sisters, an intimate part of one family. They may look different, have unfamiliar customs and find it difficult to understand Indian

English, and we Indians may find some of their speech unintelligible, but we are all brothers and sisters working for the same cause, ready to dedicate our energy to building a peaceful and good world. Together we can create a new future for humanity, blessed by greater wisdom and compassionate feelings.

Our Universal Brotherhood, when extended to all beings, can make the earth itself more prosperous. Our constructive thoughts and activities can make true progress possible for numerous fellow humans and millions of lesser creatures who are deprived. We would then find ways and means for ferocious animals to live unafraid and therefore become gentler; domestic animals may be helped to rise to new levels of affectionate behaviour, loyalty and cooperation with their elder brethren, the human beings. We know that, in spite of poverty, a majority of Indians lived at one time without envy, contented with simple things, with smiles on their faces, because there was a way of thinking in the country which made it possible for them to do so. Madame Blavatsky, on being asked whether there would be an end to poverty at the end of the Kali Yuga, said that it may not be so because people have to work out their karma, but the poor would be happy and free of frustration, and the rich would be generous and kind. Such an end to Kali Yuga can begin even now if we create a strong nucleus of Universal Brotherhood without any distinctions. Are we alive to the truth of such a regenerative Brotherhood that the Mahatmas envisaged?

Work around the World

A broad overview of reports from everywhere shows that there is an increase in the number of Theosophical websites, giving, in addition to some basic information, news about local programmes. Apparently there are many enquiries wherever there are websites, but so far they have not resulted in additions to the numerical strength of the TS. In fact, there has been a marginal decrease in membership in many places, with a marginal increase in a few others. India and the US have had hefty drops in the number of members. Our survey also seems to indicate that the Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) is spreading its activities to more regions, for many reports give details of work done. Most of the TOS groups made contributions for the relief of tsunami victims. We cannot of course give a fuller account here of all this.

A highlight of the year was the Inter-American Congress held in San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica, from 14 to 18 September 2005, with the theme 'Many Paths to One Truth'. It was attended by about 115 people from 19 countries. Visitors included the President of the Pan-African Federation and the General Secretaries of the Dutch and Philippine Sections, Prof. P. Krishna, Dr John Algeo and myself. The President of the Inter-American Federation, Mrs Terezinha Kind, mentions that many Latin American members cannot afford to attend international gatherings, and this was a valuable opportunity for them. Reports

she received show that the Congress was fruitful.

The Federation Officials were active throughout the year, as a result of which several Lodges were strengthened or revived. Along with the Secretary of the Federation, Mrs Ana Lorena Howell, Mrs Kind visited Puerto Rico to solve some problems and restore order. Accompanied by Mrs Magaly Polanco, currently the Presidential Representative in the Dominican Republic, she lectured at three Lodges there. Her arduous tours included ten countries. Frequent correspondence with weaker areas, dispatch of the Federation newsletter, and a monthly communication to member countries sustained interest created by tours. We thank all those who have worked for the Federation and organized the Congress in Costa Rica.

The three Lodges in San Jose are now working harmoniously and more seriously than before. The Presidential Representative, Mrs Maria Orlich, reports that there is a positive change and the programmes have become more rewarding. The study group outside the capital is carrying on its work. Visitors included Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr, General Secretary of the TS in the Philippines, who conducted a seminar on Self-transformation, and Prof. P. Krishna, whose lecture at the University was much appreciated. The members are planning to establish a Theosophical Centre to serve the Central American and Caribbean area. A plot of

land has been donated for the purpose and a fund started with a little more than US\$ 3,000.

In Argentina, summer and winter camps for study, training and discussions are organized in the Theosophical Centre at San Rafael. This year, fifty-two people took part in 'living Theosophy' by not only studying together, but sharing in the cleaning, cooking and so forth. Enthusiastic young people attended the study classes on the *Kathopanishad* and meditation sessions. Members from neighbouring Chile also join in the work at the Theosophical Centre. The Section proposes to translate into Spanish articles from *The Theosophist* and put them on the Internet. The General Secretary, Mrs Liliana Pastore, says that the energetic participation of young people is important to the Section's activities.

In Chile, which is on the other side of the great Andes mountains from Argentina, there is good attendance at public lectures, courses in Theosophy and workshops. They received welcome visits from Mr and Mrs Palmeri and Mr Tito Cassibba from Argentina. The membership is very small both in Chile and Uruguay, which used to be Sections. We are told there is some improvement in the work in Uruguay. They are promoting compassion towards all beings and vegetarianism, and opposing consumerism. Peace meditation takes place every month.

In Bolivia, a national study meeting on HPB's *Practical Occultism* is reported to have had much success from the

point of view of study and brotherliness. Daily meetings are held during the week at the headquarters in Cochabamba, where yoga classes and lessons in vegetarianism and health are subsidiary activities attracting young people. A new Lodge is in the process of being organized in a place called Oruro.

The Brazilian Section has the advantage of possessing a large and beautiful property near the capital city of Brasilia, where they hold varied programmes. This year's winter seminar, conducted by Mr Pedro Oliveira, was on 'The Theosophy of the Mystics'. In the summer they studied Dr Taimni's *The Science of Yoga*. Theosophical broadcasts on television have now expanded to fifty-five channels across the country and are reaching thousands of people. Ten thousand copies of their quarterly magazine in Portuguese, *Theosophia*, are sold in the newsstands of principal cities and on streets. CWL's *An Outline of Theosophy* in Portuguese was published. Following the recommendation of Dr Taimni, many Lodges hold members' meetings, requiring them to do previous reading and reflection.

The Colombian Section has always been very active and continues to organize public lectures, workshops, study courses, artistic presentations and so forth. Mr Walter Ballesteros, a stalwart, delivered lectures for many years on a variety of Theosophical subjects. These have been published as a pamphlet to commemorate his birth centenary and distributed widely to Spanish-speaking members. The programme of the TS in Bogota appears

every month in the cultural review of the University and is also disseminated electronically. Outside the capital city there is now only one active Lodge, in Medellin, after the transfer of a Lodge in Ecuador to the international headquarters.

In Venezuela there are two Lodges with a total membership of 46, of which 31 are new entrants. Mrs Terezinha Kind visited the two Lodges in Caracas and also a new study group formed in the island of Margarita. In the city of Tigre also a new study group is taking shape. We owe thanks to the recently appointed Presidential Representative, Mrs Nelly Nouel, and Mrs Kind for strengthening the TS in Venezuela. In Peru also valiant efforts continue in spite of many obstacles. They tried twice to organize a course for the public in Theosophy, but could not attract people. Attempts to recover a piece of land encroached upon long ago have had no success so far, yet efforts are continuing. TS activities take place in the home of the Presidential Representative, Mr Julio Pomar, and his wife Edith, who work with total devotion.

In Central America, some isolated Lodges and groups of members function with encouragement and support from Federation Officers. In Panama, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, Theosophical interest is growing, but slowly, because of economic and other hardships. In El Salvador there is a good library in the TS premises, and they are proposing to acquire copies of *At the Feet of the Master* for distribution. The Mexican Section, which has 14 Lodges

and 2 study centres, had an autumn school and seminars on varied subjects. They enjoy visits by Prof. Krishna, who is welcomed both in the TS and by Krishnamurti groups.

In the Caribbean area, the largest membership is in Cuba, and it has increased marginally by eleven members during the year. They have two courses of Basic Theosophy every year, each lasting about five and a half months. During the annual Convention there was a review of the one hundred years' work of the Section and of Lodges which have existed equally long. Study, public lectures, members' meetings and so forth go on regularly.

The Puerto Rican Section's reports during the last few years included almost nothing about Theosophical activities. Their committee closed down three Lodges which were dormant, leaving only two in Puerto Rico. Two other Lodges in the Dominican Republic, which had been started as a result of the visits by the former General Secretary, the late Mr Miguel Charneco, were nurtured by him during his lifetime. But at the last General Assembly held in Puerto Rico to elect officers, the members who went from Dominica were not allowed to vote, causing great dissatisfaction to them. There was no alternative to making the two Lodges in Dominica independent of the Puerto Rican Section, because the original purpose of receiving help from Puerto Rico was not served. The turmoil being great, the Charter of the Puerto Rican Section was withdrawn and Puerto Rico and Dominica were certified as

separate Presidential Agencies after full investigation and advice from the President and Secretary of the Inter-American Federation. I am informed that there is now some improvement. The work in Dominica has been strengthened after Mrs Kind, accompanied by the new Presidential Representative, Mrs Magaly Polanco, visited three cities in order to discuss the work with the members and give talks and a basic course in Theosophy.

In the US, e-learning courses have been developed and are made freely available. A new course entitled 'When You are One with Every Heart that Beats' is said to be of particular interest, for it contains material about the seven international Presidents, including addresses, articles, Watch-Tower notes and an audio interview between Joy Mills and Tony Lisy.

The National Lodge, which serves over 500 members, has benefited from a course based on Clara Codd's book, *The Technique of the Spiritual Life*, given by Mrs Maria Parisen. Three of the most popular leaflets on 'The Theosophical Society', 'The Word "Theosophy"' and 'The Way and the Wisdom' have been revised and reprinted in Spanish. The membership, which has fallen, now stands at 4,108 — distributed in 48 Lodges, 53 study centres and 4 provisional centres. The Publishing House has been restructured and the National President, Mrs Betty Bland, reports that they are 'building a foundation for what we hope will be a growth in our membership and renewed interest in Theosophy'.

In neighbouring Canada, Mr George Duguay, who was the Organizing Secretary for several years, has passed on the responsibility to Mr Pierre Laflamme until the next election. In this vast country, their magazine is the only link with members at large. A new group has been started in Edmonton, Alberta. Some Lodges carry on their work in English and others in French.

The Indian Section also suffered a substantial loss of more than 400 members, but there was increased activity at the Section headquarters. The General Secretary, Mr S. Sundaram, visited several places and lectured at Federation Conferences in Rayalaseema, Bengal, Bihar and Maharashtra. He also spoke on 'To Love is to Serve' at the Theosophical Order of Service camp held in the Eastern Zone. His visits were supplemented by those of the Joint General Secretary and National Lecturers. Many study courses and training sessions take place. Publications are brought out in the major languages of India according to need. Apart from its Convention, which has been held for many years in concurrence with the international Convention, the Section organizes a South Indian Conference at Adyar during Easter weekend. This year Prof. R. C. Tampi conducted it, and more than 100 people from different parts of South India participated. A workers' training camp was also organized at the Varanasi headquarters under the direction of the former General Secretary, Mr P. K. Jayaswal. A special issue of *The Indian Theosophist* was published in

honour of Dr Annie Besant, which has been much appreciated. Mention must also be made of the praiseworthy work done under the auspices of the Madras TOS to provide relief to those affected by the tsunami. Some areas in the South were deprived of drinking water as the tsunami flooded the land, and gifts were made by the TOS of reverse osmosis plants, which were much appreciated.

In Pakistan work goes on steadily in the city of Karachi, consisting of public lectures, study classes and so on. An Urdu translation of *At the Feet of the Master* has been prepared. In Indonesia, the Wishnu Lodge in Malang, which had been dormant for many years, has been revived with the help of the members in Surabaya and Blitar. Mrs Ali Ritsema, former General Secretary of the Dutch Section, again visited Indonesia, lecturing in Jakarta, Bandung and Surabaya, and participating in the annual Convention of the Section. Their magazine has been published regularly and various activities in different parts of the Section have kept Theosophy alive in the country.

The Presidential Representative in Sri Lanka, Mr S. M. Jayathilake, has started a quarterly newsletter. Another one in the Sinhala language is also being brought out. Publication work has started in a small way with the life-story of Col Olcott related in Sinhala and a brochure on Theosophy. Efforts are being made to revive the Ashoka Lodge in Kandy and also the two Lodges at the Colombo headquarters. A trust fund has been set up in the name of the late Mrs

Theja Gunawardane, who was General Secretary of the Sri Lankan Section at one time, for the purpose of publishing Theosophical literature. Slowly the TS in this country is picking up strength.

In Bangladesh, the membership has increased from 67 to 119. Dr C. V. Agarwal, Presidential Representative for Southeast Asia, reports that there is reluctance to pay dues, as there are other organizations in which membership is free. TOS activities are also being developed in the different Lodges. There is a Lodge in Penang which does not meet, but its Secretary regularly corresponds, and the members say they are content with self-study. In Malaysia, Selangor Lodge has study / discussion meetings every week. Participation is increasing.

The biggest Lodge in Southeast Asia is in Singapore, where Basic Theosophy courses are being regularly given. The latest one brought in 57 new members, but some dropped out. Annie Besant's *A Study in Consciousness* was taken up as the subject for members' meetings. Informal study groups discussed any subject which comes up for clarification. Family outings are periodically arranged. There were a few overseas visitors, among whom was Dr N.C. Ramanujachary, who gave lectures and conducted study of the *Viveka-chudāmani*.

The General Secretary of the English Section, Mr Colin Price, reports an increase in the number of members after many years, and among the more than 100 new members, there are several younger people. The English summer school was

held in the University of Bristol, with the theme 'The Raising of Consciousness', which about 140 persons attended. I was the guest speaker, and invited also to deliver the Blavatsky Lecture, the subject of which was 'Living Truth: The Future of the Theosophical Society'. A public lecture in the Bristol Lodge attracted a large audience. At the London headquarters there is an ongoing course on 'Theosophy: The Way to Self-Discovery' and another on *The Secret Doctrine*, apart from various other functions, lectures, and so on.

The TS in Wales is very active and expanding. During the year, a new study group came into existence in Swansea; there are two others in North Wales. Members are attending courses on Theosophy given by Mr Eric McGough, designed to have a wide appeal through emphasizing the deeper aspects of Theosophical teaching and their application to daily life. Lectures on esoteric subjects and group meditation attract people. Members from Scotland participated in the European Congress in Portugal, and the Organizing Secretary, Mr Martin Lowe, attended the European Council meeting at Naarden in July, thus widening their Theosophical contacts. Their Regional Council has been financially supporting Lodges without their own premises. Their magazine has been relaunched and archival material is being catalogued and used on their website.

The annual Convention of Belfast Lodge in North Ireland was combined with the unifying of the Theosophical

Society in Ireland, which now includes all the members in both the north and south. The international Vice-President, Dr John Algeo, inaugurated the proceedings and delivered a much appreciated lecture on 'The Seven Rays: Key to World Peace and Personal Wholeness'. Two study groups have been started — one in Dublin and another in Coleraine, while there is a third of longer standing in Cork. The Lodge in Limerick also had the privilege of a visit from Dr Algeo, and he gave a lecture on W. B. Yeats and his connection with Theosophy.

An important event in Europe was the holding of a Nordic Workshop in Finland in July. Representatives from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland and Estonia discussed practical measures to reactivate the TS in Norway and once again have a presence in Denmark. The Organizing Secretary in Norway says that they feel stimulated to make fresh efforts to restore the TS in Norway to its previous strength. They plan to have two seminars in Oslo and initiate other activities. Finland was the venue of both the Swedish and Finnish summer schools, with myself delivering lectures on 'Intellect and Intuition', 'Truth and Reality' and, during a brief visit to Estonia, on 'Thought, Mind and Meditation'. Lodges have joint meetings in Finland in different towns. The Finnish members continue to support the work in Estonia. The Section will be one hundred years old in 2007, and has invited the triennial European Congress there for celebrating the occasion.

The Icelandic Section is the largest and

most active of the Sections in Northern Europe. As mentioned last year, varied programmes are held — lectures, discussions, meditation sessions, refreshment after public lectures and so forth. This year their summer school was held on *The Voice of the Silence*, which was reprinted. The Swedish Section is preparing a translation of Dr Taimni's *Self-Culture*. They have six active Lodges and some study groups. The General Secretary, Mr Pertti Spets, has offered to travel to Denmark and contact some older members and attract others through lectures in order to revive the Society in the country.

The General Secretary of the German Section reports that activity continues in the Lodges, and that the weekend meetings in Northern Germany as well as the summer school are regularly held. She has visited some of the groups and found the work satisfactory. The TS in Austria consists of three Lodges only, but they are carrying on their programmes. In Hungary also we have only 35 members, but, happily, four new ones joined the TS during the year, which is relatively very creditable. There is only one active study group, which functions in the flat of the Presidential Representative, Mr Thomas Martinovich.

The TS in Slovenia is very active and we have the pleasure of having some representatives at this Convention. They have regular weekly meetings in all the Lodges and also fortnightly meetings for beginners in each Lodge. Other meetings of the Lodges are organized in peaceful places to create links to

strengthen mutual friendship. The winter and summer schools had Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu, Chairman of the European Federation, and Miss Mary Anderson, international Secretary, as their guest speakers. Miss Anderson visits Slovenia every year and lectures in all the four Lodges. Leadbeater's *The Chakras* as well as *Light on the Path* are being prepared for re-publication in Slovenian.

The Italian Section organized four seminars in different places which, we are told, were 'crowned by stunning success'. The General Secretary, Mr Antonio Girardi, is in constant communication with the members and Lodges. Some of the members travelled to the Theosophical Centre in Naarden to participate in the summer school of the Latin countries, and some of them regularly come to Adyar. A group in the town of Vicenza makes an annual award of a silver plate and Euros 1,000 for a trip to Adyar or to buy Theosophical books to a non-member for special assistance given to the TS in Italy.

The Belgian Section continues to have serious difficulties because of the property they own in Brussels. They can no longer use their large lecture hall and have to hold meetings in a smaller room. The General Secretary, Dr H. van der Hecht, declares that they work 'steadfastly and patiently', hoping for better times. The theme of the French Section's Convention was 'Listen to the Song of Life'. Their magazine, called *The Blue Lotus (Le Lotus Bleu)*, started by HPB, is distributed not only to their members, but also in Belgium, the Ivory Coast and Togo in West Africa.

Lodges are functioning in Paris and a number of places in the provinces.

During the year the Swiss Section's Charter had to be withdrawn and the TS there became a Presidential Agency because of a steady decline since the 1980s. The Presidential Representative, Mrs Eliane Gaillard, reports that probably there are only 15 active members now, out of a total of 40. However, happily, a small group has been formed in German-speaking Switzerland by Mrs Heidi Burch. The Chairman of the European Federation has been helping the work and efforts are being made to put new life into it.

Portugal also has gained new momentum after the events which were reported. For the fifth time, a seminar under the auspices of the European Federation was organized in the town of Evora, this year on 'The Unity of Life', which was well attended. I visited Lisbon and made a brief trip to Evora early in September, and found that lectures could attract worthwhile audiences. Ten Lodges are active in this Section. The report from Spain is rather summary, but informs us that among the visitors was Mr Juan Viñas from Argentina, who gave lectures in six Lodges in Spain on varied subjects. The General Secretary himself visited a few places.

At the Australian Section's headquarters, work is carried on in a harmonious and professional way. The membership stood at 1,258 at the beginning of September, of which 124 are national members. Besides the annual Convention,

they have effective programmes in their centres at Springbrook, Canyonleigh and Mount Helena. The National President, Mrs Linda Oliveira, visited a number of centres of work during the year. Among visiting lecturers were Dr Ravi Ravindra, Mrs Betty Bland and myself. The lecturing work, of course, falls mainly on the shoulders of their own lecturers. The Theosophy-Science group as well as the TOS are very active.

New Zealand also received visitors from abroad, and a range of presentations were made in different parts of the country by others. The National Council has developed a five-year plan, and the headquarters in Auckland is reported to be more active. A short meditation based on an invocation from Geoffrey Hodson and Annie Besant is being used. Their School of Theosophy was directed by Mr Vic Hao Chin, Jr, General Secretary of the Philippines Section, on 'The Process of Self-transformation'. The membership stands at 1,018 and a graph they have made shows that from 1997, although there are marginal ups and downs, there has been no real change.

The General Secretary of the Southern African Section visited all the Lodges and Centres, and conducted study classes in Pretoria and nearby. A National Education Officer is also running a study course based on Geoffrey Hodson's *Basic Theosophy*. Western Africa has 13 Lodges and 10 study centres spread over three countries. The Annual Convention, a School of the Wisdom and a weekend

seminar were held in Accra and Kumasi. The construction of the headquarters building in Accra has been completed. Lodges are being encouraged to have book-sale units to promote TS literature. Regular studies go on in all the Lodges. The French-speaking members in Togo are faced with great difficulties — financial and social. They are unable to meet the expenses of the upkeep of their Theosophical centre and there are a number of members who cannot pay the annual membership fee.

The East and Central African Section, spread over four countries, celebrated the arrival of Theosophy in East Africa in 1905, when the first Lodge was established in Mombasa. Nairobi Lodge organized a full year of activities, culminating in the Convention held in April 2005, with Mr. Pedro Oliveira, President of the Indo-Pacific Federation, Mr Tom Davis, President of the Pan-African Federation, and myself as guest speakers. Mr Oliveira is reported to have had enthusiastic audiences during his extensive tour. I visited Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and Kampala in Uganda. At the Convention in Nairobi, with about 100 participants, a book entitled *Healing the Planet* by Mr Bhupendra R. Vora was released. Theosophical books are being sold in stores in Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu.

Covenant Lodge in Israel has had decreased participation and is therefore planning measures to restore interest. As reported in previous years, their meetings are varied. The international Secretary is a regular visitor, helping them by offering

seminars and lectures. We have received no report so far from Japan.

During the year I toured Europe, starting with Greece where it was useful to meet the General Secretary and his fellow workers in the Section. My talks were well organized and received. We hope that Greek members will be able to continue having contacts with the rest of the Theosophical world. I also gave a series of lectures at the Finnish, Swedish, and Estonian summer schools, apart from participating in the Nordic workshop. Afterwards, I was in England and proceeded from there to Scotland, visiting all the four Lodges in that country. It seems as if former misunderstandings in Scotland have ended and I found the atmosphere to be friendly and Theosophical. The rest of my stay included a week at the Naarden Centre, with lectures at the summer school of Sections where Latin languages are spoken, and then travel on to Lisbon. Then I visited the Krotona Centre and gave talks at the Inter-American Congress. Besides these my work included lecturing in some Indian cities and participation in a seminar organized in Delhi in connection with HH the Dalai Lama's seventieth birth anniversary, in addition to dealing with the administration of Adyar, correspondence, meeting visitors and so forth.

The Vice-President, Dr John Algeo, travelled to Ireland, as already mentioned, and took part in the Theosophical History Conference in London. He also gave a course at the Naarden School of Wisdom on 'Reincarnation: the Untrue Fact', and

attended the European Federation Council meeting when he was there. He of course gave talks for the TS in America and participated in the Inter-American Congress. His literary work and Theosophical activities are intertwined, and it would be impossible to list the many aspects of his valuable contributions.

Miss Mary Anderson lectured in several countries in Europe during a lengthy tour which covered Germany, Austria, Holland, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, England and Israel. She has also been in demand at Federation Conferences in India. During the year she was the chief guest lecturer at Salem during the Tamil Federation Conference, and spoke at the South Indian Conference of the Indian Section. Her work at the Secretary's office keeps her more than fully engaged.

The chairman of the European Federation, Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu, was visiting lecturer in Australia, and of course travels in Europe to carry out her varied duties as Chairman of the Federation, including regular seminars and talks in Paris, travel to weaker areas and fostering the TS in Eastern Europe.

Mr Pedro Oliveira, President of the Indo-Pacific Federation, reports that a Chinese translation of *At the Feet of the Master* has been published. As already mentioned, he toured East Africa. He attends to development of studies in Australia and briefly visited Sri Lanka for the second time earlier this month to help the Presidential Representative, Mr Jayathilake.

The President of the Pan-African

Federation, Mr Tom Davis, was in Nairobi for the East African Convention, visited two Centres in the United States and lectured at the Inter-American Congress. Needless to say, there are various other lecturers whose work is also of very much importance and I thank all of them for their devoted services.

As most of the members know, the tsunami arrived in Chennai last year while we were engaged in opening the Convention. What appeared miraculous was that the force of the water did not hit our estate at Adyar, but went up the river, causing minimal damage as it overflowed the bank, throwing on our shore a huge amount of rubbish. Again, something similar has happened this year because of excessive rain and flooding, but the rain has filled our wells and tanks after several years of dryness. Delegates are all the same requested to use water frugally, for global weather patterns are changing and we do not know what will be our position in the next few months. On the whole, work has gone on satisfactorily at our headquarters despite some problems and the fact that we do not have enough suitable members or even sympathizers to volunteer their services for specific work, which casts an extra load on the existing staff members. The Adyar Library would like to recruit both Sanskrit scholars and persons qualified for Library work. At the Editorial Office we are in need of an experienced editor who is knowledgeable in Theosophy and proficient in English. We could also do with suitable assistance in the Maintenance,

Garden, and other departments.

We regret the departure to higher levels of Dr K. Kunjunni Raja, former Director of the Adyar Library, and Mr R. Gopalaratnam, who performed a variety of tasks for the Society as General Manager, TPH Manager and member of the Executive Committee. All the usual services of the Library are continuing and publications are being brought out regularly. We are happy to have two young members from Argentina on our staff: Mrs Juliana Cesano in the Editorial Office and Mr Pablo Sender in the Archives. He is digitalizing the catalogues and classifying documents properly, but much work must be done steadily for quite some time to raise the standard of our Archives. Our Publishing House went through a low period with reduced income, but has now picked up. Sales income has increased significantly and the Adyar Bookshop is doing well. The Book Gift Fund is also being used more effectively.

The School of the Wisdom had the usual two sessions in the cooler part of the year. In January Mr Ed Abdill from New York gave a course on 'Key to Wisdom' and his wife Mary conducted a weekly workshop on presentation of Theosophy. From early November up to 17 December there have been three courses on the essence of Christianity, Vedānta and Buddhism, directed respectively by Dr A. Amaladas, Dr S. Sankaranarayanan and Dr Krishnanath. They were all attended by about thirty students from various countries.

The institutions working under the Olcott Education Society have had a good year. At the end of last year, the School premises sheltered about 1,000 people affected by the tsunami. Some of the students lost their books and uniforms, but we have replaced what they lost. The results of the final examination were satisfactory. In the HPB Hostel we have 25 boys who are now taken care of by Mrs Vijaya Ravindran, assisted by Mrs Sarojini Kannan. At the Social Welfare Centre, more than 100 children in the Nursery School are cared for. Dr R. Revathy is in charge of their health needs, and we are glad to say that her sister, Mrs Maithili Srinivasan, volunteered her services as Administrator, while the Superintendent, Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan, looks after the educational and training work. A tailoring course, periodic free medical services, and so on are organized here. The Animal Welfare Centre is ably managed by Dr P. D. Jagannathan. Their outreach programme is appreciated by the villagers in surrounding areas who bring animals to be treated free of charge. In the Besant Scout Camping Centre, 24 institutions and about 2,700 children enjoyed the outdoor activities, including Nature study, bird watching, and so forth.

At our international headquarters, service and study proceed hand in hand. If love of truth and compassionate action are part of the whole Theosophical world, we will attract much more attention and goodwill.

RADHA BURNIER

TREASURER'S REPORT 2004 - 2005

The salient features of the Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2005 are as under:

1. Income

The Income for the year was Rs. 11,130,323/-. The details are as follows:

	Year ended 31.03.2004 Rs.	Year ended 31.03.2005 Rs.
Interest	14,941,716	15,531,805
Fees and Dues	2,232,084	1,388,544
Surplus from the		
Bhojansala and Leadbeater Chambers	---	101,994
Theosophical Publishing House	742,490	77,843
<i>The Theosophist & Adyar Newsletter</i>	---	47,443
Vasanta Press	35,698	11,387
Theosophy Science Centre	---	724
General Donations	177,372	197,073
License Fees	120,000	137,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	167,058	559,781
	<u>18,416,418</u>	<u>18,053,594</u>
Less: Interest transferred to earmarked funds	6,049,110	6,923,271
	<u>12,367,308</u>	<u>11,130,323</u>

The net interest income for the year is Rs.8,608,534/-, after transferring a sum of Rs.6,923,271/- to earmarked funds. The gross interest for the year ended 31.03.05 is Rs.15,531,805/-, as compared to Rs.14,941,716/- in the previous year. Fees & Dues received during the year amounted to Rs.1,388,544/-, as against Rs.2,232,084/- in the previous year. Bhojansala & Leadbeater Chambers show a surplus of Rs.1,01,994/-, as against a deficit of Rs.97,128/- in the previous year. The surplus in the Theosophical Publishing House has shown a decline from Rs.742,490/- in the previous year to Rs.77,843/- in the current year. The reduction in surplus is due to fall in sale of publications, as orders from TPH, USA, were temporarily withheld due to restructuring of their operations. *The Theosophist* and *Adyar Newsletter* show a surplus of Rs.47,443/-, as compared to the deficit of Rs.73,262/-, in the previous year due to an increase in the subscriptions and interest earned.

2. Expenditure

The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs.20,132,764/-, an increase of Rs.2,885,106/- over the previous year, mainly due to increased charitable expenses. The breakup is as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Year ended 31.03.2004 Rs.	Year ended 31.03.2005 Rs.
Departments	5,570,687	4,358,918
Charitable work	5,891,264	10,725,091
Propagation of Theosophy	1,828,418	1,120,233
International Offices	585,084	603,398
Establishment	1,682,440	1,860,724
Other Expenses	1,689,765	1,464,400
	<u>17,247,658</u>	<u>20,132,764</u>

(a) Departments

The net expenditure of the Departments for the year is Rs.4,256,924/-, compared to Rs.5,570,687/- in the previous year, a reduction of Rs.1,313,763/-. The broad details are as follows:-

Departments	Year ended 31.03.2004 Rs.	Year ended 31.03.2005 Rs.
Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers	97,128	-101,994
Garden	609,264	804,716
Maintenance	4,864,295	3,554,202
	<u>5,570,687</u>	<u>4,256,924</u>

Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers show a surplus of Rs.101,994/- in the current year, as compared to a deficit of Rs.97,128/- in the previous year. Boarding shows a deficit of Rs.73,844/-, and lodging shows a surplus of Rs.175,838/-. The deficit in the Garden has increased to Rs. 804,716/-, as compared to Rs.609,264/- in the previous year, mainly because of a fall in garden produce income and payment towards employees' state insurance.

In respect of Maintenance Department, the net expenditure has come down from Rs.4,864,295/- to Rs.3,554,202/-. The following were the major expenses:-

	Year ended 31.03.2004 Rs.	Year ended 31.03.2005 Rs.
Electricity Charges	1,892,251	1,971,684
Water Supply Installations	180,141	313,850
Telephones	316,960	34,880
Electrical Installation Maintenance	350,404	236,257
Boundaries	359,603	193,495
Repairs and Maintenance of Buildings	1,713,481	1,254,423
Other Maintenance costs including Depreciation	752,223	542,515
Office Salaries and Other Expenses	573,261	524,773
	<u>6,138,324</u>	<u>5,071,877</u>
Less: Recoveries	1,274,029	1,517,675
Net Deficit	<u>4,864,295</u>	<u>3,554,202</u>

As usual, the repairs and maintenance of buildings and the electricity cost constitute a significant part of the overall expenses of the Maintenance Department, besides other expenses such as maintenance of water supply and electrical installations, boundaries and office costs.

(b) Charitable Work

The amount spent on Charitable Work for the year was Rs.10,725,091/-, an increase of Rs.4,833,827/- over the previous year. This significant increase is due to Tsunami relief work carried through T.O.S. Chennai. Other charitable expenses include the amount spent on education, hostel, animal welfare and medical aid.

(c) Propagation of Theosophy

The expenditure on Propagation of Theosophy for the year was as follows:

		Year ended 31.03.2004 Rs.	Year ended 31.03.2005 Rs.
Adyar Library and Research Centre	(Net)	506,482	312,766
<i>The Theosophist</i> and <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	"	73,262	—
Archives and Museum	"	123,491	90,215
School of the Wisdom	(Gross)	44,898	103,074
Book Gift	"	577,115	179,295
Convention and Seminars	"	468,665	431,769
Others		34,505	3,114
		<u>1,828,418</u>	<u>1,120,233</u>

In the case of the Adyar Library net deficit has reduced to Rs.312,766/-, compared to Rs.506,482/- in the previous year. An amount of Rs.179,295/- was utilized for Book Gifts, as compared to Rs.577,115/- in the previous year.

(d) Other Costs

The total cost of Establishment and International Offices was Rs.2,464,122/-, as against Rs.2,267,524/- in the previous year.

3. Net Surplus

The overall excess of income over expenditure for the year is Rs. 440,489/-, as compared to Rs.416,016/- for the previous year. The surplus of Rs. 440,489/- is after appropriating Rs.3,00,000/- to the Social Welfare Endowment Fund.

4. Capital Expenditure

The total amount spent on Capital Account was Rs.508,522/- and relates to computer & accessories, photocopy machines, fire-resisting cabinet, furniture, etc.

TREASURER'S REPORT

5. Overall Position

The overall financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory. During the year the Adyar Besant Commemorative Endowment Fund rose from Rs.42,228,173/- to Rs.51,379,596/- and other Funds from Rs.90,923,035/- to Rs.95,540,233/-.

6. Acknowledgement

On behalf of the Society, I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the continued support of the members throughout the world.

CHENNAI
01.10.2005

K.S. DASTUR
Honorary Treasurer

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

From 1st April 2004 to 31st March 2005 (in Rupees)

Name of Section etc.		2003-2004	2004-2005
The Theosophical Society in:	Africa, East and Central	—	—
	Africa, South	19003	6595
	Africa, West	—	—
	America, Central	—	398
	Argentina	—	46291
	Asia, South-East	14693	2138
	Australia	133030	113248
	Austria	5410	6104
	Belgium	—	—
	Bolivia	20379	42927
	Brazil	400840	92733
	Canada	39062	23648
	Chile	15750	30241
	Columbia	—	—
	Costa Rica	2218	1589
	Cuba	—	—
	Denmark	—	—
	England	155525	—
	Finland	79024	84378
	France	102315	—
	Germany	42904	41800
	Greece	—	—
	Hungary	—	—
	Iceland	45021	—
	India	33845	83624
	Indonesia	6489	3936
	Ireland, Northern	1199	2508
	Ireland, Republic of	—	—
	Italy	125142	100797
	Ivory Coast	—	—
	Mexico	22490	22670
	Netherlands	188768	—
	New Zealand	17800	—

TREASURER'S REPORT

Name of Section etc.		2003-2004	2004-2005
The Theosophical Society in:	Norway	7455	7164
	Pakistan	—	—
	Peru	7435	7298
	Philippines, The	—	—
	Portugal	13768	20424
	Puerto Rico	—	10409
	Russia	—	—
	Scotland	—	—
	Slovenia	5249	9831
	Spain	45337	62075
	Sri Lanka	1870	—
	Sweden	26103	22186
	Switzerland	—	—
	Togo	—	—
	USA	491869	469663
	Uruguay	7793	—
	Venezuela	—	6076
	Wales	2286	2776
	Lodges attached to Adyar:		
	Israel	54367	—
	Japan	9627	12512
	Korea	1600	—
	Fellows-at-large	86418	52505
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		2232084	1388544
		<hr/>	<hr/>

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2005

As at 31-3-2004	LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2005	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
	General Fund:			
30,925,896	Balance as per last Balance Sheet		40,059,725	
—	Add: Grant in Aid Ministry of Human Resources and Development for Annie Besant Seminar		37,500	
30,925,896			40,097,225	
416,016	Add: Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		440,489	
31,341,912			40,537,714	
8,717,813	Add: Long term capital gains on redemption of units of mutual Fund		—	
40,059,725				40,537,714
42,228,173	Adyar Besant Commemorative Endowment Fund			51,379,596
90,923,035	Other Funds	5		95,540,233
3,523,812	Current Liabilities and Provisions	6		3,181,842
176,734,745				190,639,385

Chennai
29 August 2005

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2005

As at 31-3-2004	ASSETS	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2005	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
14,909,897	Fixed Assets	1		14,308,229
	Investments: (At cost)			
	In Scheduled Banks, Financial Institutions, Public Sector Undertakings and Units with Unit Trust of India and Other Mutual Funds.			
150,827,686				167,123,299
	Current Assets, Loans and Advances:			
3,429,110	Stocks	2	3,446,550	
2,162,461	Sundry Debtors		1,461,513	
4,308,466	Cash and Bank Balances	3	3,093,544	
1,097,125	Loans and Advances	4	1,206,250	
10,997,162				9,207,857
176,734,745				190,639,385

Schedule Numbers 1 to 6 and Notes on Accounts form part of the Balance Sheet. This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our report.

FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants

K. S. DASTUR
Hony. Treasurer

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2005

Year ended 31-3-2004	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-2005	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
	Departments: (Net Expenditure)		
97,128	Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	—	
609,264	Garden	804,716	
4,864,295	Maintenance	3,554,202	
5,570,687			4,358,918
	Charitable Work:		
2,814,257	Animal Welfare	2,323,130	
2,186,076	Education	2,362,000	
47,600	Welfare Grants	27,100	
217,488	Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	212,821	
74,100	School Fees and Books	68,300	
313,814	Social Welfare Work	42,104	
206,184	H.P.B.Hostel	503,000	
3,345	Theosophical Order of Service - Tsunami Relief	5,160,036	
28,400	Others	26,600	
5,891,264			10,725,091
	Propagation of Theosophy:		
506,482	Adyar Library and Research Centre (Net)	312,766	
73,262	<i>The Theosophist</i> and <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	—	
3,455	Information and Public Relations	3,114	
123,491	Archives and Museum	90,215	
31,050	Theosophy Science Centre	—	
737,740		406,095	
44,898	School of the Wisdom (Gross)	103,074	
577,115	Book Gift	179,295	
468,665	Convention & Seminars	431,769	
1,090,678		714,138	
1,828,418			1,120,233
	International Offices:		
42,200	President and Vice-President	40,478	
333,882	Treasurer	347,114	
209,002	Secretary	215,806	
585,084			603,398
	Establishment:		
186,872	Headquarters	184,986	
122,085	General Manager's Office	124,051	
242,713	Housekeeping	213,845	
186,335	Sanitation	178,797	
944,435	Security	1,159,045	
1,682,440			1,860,724
15,557,893	c/f		18,668,364

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 200527

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2005

Year ended 31-3-2004	EXPENDITURE - <i>Contd</i>	Year ended 31-3-2005	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
15,557,893			18,668,364
	Other Expenses:		
			b/f
3,148	Insurance	17,585	
25,500	Legal and Court Expenses	34,000	
76,750	Audit Fees	86,454	
335,534	Rates and Taxes	131,406	
2,678	Bank Charges	2,426	
1,016,706	Depreciation	945,900	
37,683	Motor Car Expenses	47,861	
116,508	Miscellaneous	115,601	
75,258	Provision for Gratuity	83,167	
1,689,765			1,464,400
17,247,658			20,132,764
	Less: Transfer from other Funds		
77,346	Adyar Estate Improvement Fund	15,135	
	Charitable Work:		
1,112,945	Animal Welfare	1,433,726	
2,159,273	Education	1,944,880	
252,876	Social Welfare Work	42,104	
93,421	H.P.B. Hostel	120,145	
3,345	Theosophical Order of Service	5,160,036	
	Propagation of Theosophy:		
506,482	Adyar Library and Research Centre	312,766	
44,898	School of the Wisdom	103,074	
577,115	Book Gift	179,295	
468,665	Convention & Seminars	431,769	
5,296,366			9,742,930
11,951,292			10,389,834
—	Transferred to Social Welfare Endowment Fund		300,000
			10,689,834
416,016	Surplus transferred to General Fund		440,489
12,367,308			11,130,323

Chennai

29 August 2005

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADTAF

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2005

[illegible]

Notes on Accounts form part of these Accounts. This is the Income and Expenditure Account referred to in our report of even date.

FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants

K. S. DASTUR
Hony. Treasurer

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, 2005

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-2007

(Rupees in Thousands)

EXPENDITURE			INCOME				
	Budget 04-05	Actuals 04-05	Budget 06-07		Budget 04-05	Actuals 04-05	Budget 06-07
Departments (Net Expenditure)				Propagation of Theosophy			
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	160	-102	187	Theosophical Publishing House	651	78	358
Garden	850	805	690	<i>The Theosophist & Adyar Newsletter</i>	87	47	120
Maintenance	3,238	3,554	4,171	Vasanta Press	-	11	51
Charitable Work				Interest (Net)	6,700	8,608	8,000
Animal Welfare	1,500	2,323	2,000	Membership Fees and Dues	1,600	1,389	1,600
Education	2,500	2,362	2,500	Licence Fees	120	137	132
Welfare Grants	100	27	50	Miscellaneous Receipts	200	560	200
Free Dispensary & Medical Aid	250	213	300	General Donations	100	197	200
TOS	400	5,160	400	Net Deficit	64	-	-
School Fees and Books	120	68	100				
Social Welfare Work	200	42	300				
Others	30	27	30				
H.P.B. Hostel	200	503	200				
Utilization from Other Funds	-6,000	-8,716	-5,400				
Propagation of Theosophy							
Adyar Library and Research Centre	687	313	646				
<i>The Theosophist</i> and <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	-	-	-				
Vasanta Press	55	-	-				
School of the Wisdom	125	103	125				
Book Gift	500	179	500				
Workers' Training Camp	20	-	20				
Information and Public Relations	20	3	5				
Archives and Museum	300	90	100				
Theosophy Science Centre	25	-	50				
Convention & Seminars	-	432	-				
Renovation of Heritage Building	1,800	-	-				
Utilization from Other Funds	-2,000	-1,027	-1,271				
International Offices							
President and Vice-President	90	40	50				
Treasurer	380	347	380				
Secretary	200	216	230				
Establishment							
Headquarters	180	185	225				
General Manager's Office	175	124	150				
Housekeeping	330	214	300				
Sanitation	202	179	225				
Security	1,200	1,159	1,450				
Other Expenses							
Insurance Premiums	20	18	20				
Legal Expenses	60	34	40				
Audit Fees	100	86	90				
Rates and Taxes	200	131	200				
Motor Car Maintenance	60	48	60				
Miscellaneous	150	116	150				
Depreciation	1,000	946	1,100				
Bank Charges	5	2	5				
Provision for Gratuity	90	83	90				
Trans. to S. W. Endow. Fund	-	300	-				
Excess of Income over Exp.	-	440	193				
	9,522	11,027	10,661		9,522	11,027	10,661

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2005

Executive Committee

1. Mrs. R. S. Ramesh	President
2. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Vice-President
3. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Secretary
4. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Treasurer
5. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
6. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
7. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
8. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
9. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
10. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
INDIA

1. Mrs. R. S. Ramesh	President
2. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Vice-President
3. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Secretary
4. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Treasurer
5. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
6. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
7. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
8. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
9. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
10. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary

OLCOOT EDUCATION SOCIETY

1. Mrs. R. S. Ramesh	President
2. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Vice-President
3. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Secretary
4. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	Treasurer
5. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
6. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
7. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
8. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
9. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary
10. Mr. R. S. Ramesh	General Secretary

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2005

Executive Committee:

1. Mrs Radha Burnier
2. Dr John Algeo
3. Miss Mary Anderson
4. Miss Keshwar Dastur
5. Mr Surendra Narayan
6. Mr Conrad Jamieson
7. Mr Sriram Panchu
8. Dr. C. V. Agarwal
9. Miss Marlene Bell

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
General Council Member
General Council Member

General Manager

Adyar Library

Hon. Director
Librarian

Bhojanasala

Garden

Housekeeping

Information

Leadbeater Chambers

Maintenance

Medical Service

Museum and Archives

Sanitation

School of the Wisdom

Security

Theosophical Publishing House

Vasanta Press

Secretary

Assistant Security Officer

Mr S. Harihara Raghavan
 Dr S. Sankaranarayanan
 Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam
 Mrs Sudha Natarajan
 Mr J. Suresh
 Mrs Radha Muthiah
 Mr Conrad Jamieson
 Mrs Uma Nilakanta
 Mr J. S. Narasimhamurthy
 Dr S. D. Inbaraj
 Dr C. V. Agarwal
 Mr D. V. Subramanian
 Mrs Dolores Gago
 Mr P. Mohan
 Mr S. Ramu
 Mr S. Harihara Raghavan

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Chairman President, TS

Secretary Miss Sumana Kale

Treasurer Mr T. S. Jambunathan

Headmistress Mrs Lakshmi Suryanarayana

Mrs Vijaya Ravindran

Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan

Dr P. D. Jagannathan

Olcott Memorial School

H.P.B. Hostel

Social Welfare Centre

Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2005

National Societies and Sections	26
Regional Associations (formed under Rule 35 (c))	12
Presidential Agencies	11
Total Lodges	934
Total Centres	160
Total Membership 2004	31,920
Total Membership 2005	30,171

Section/Area	Number of		
	Lodges	Centres	Members
1. Africa, East and Central	8	12	347
2. Africa, South	4	2	279
3. Africa, West	13	10	251
4. America, Central	3	1	24
5. Argentina	16	11	290
6. Asia, South-East	8	1	186
7. Australia	12		1,285
8. Austria	3		63
9. Belgium	7		82
10. Bolivia (and Paraguay)	10	2	98
11. Brazil	38	14	820
12. Canada	4	4	210
13. Chile	3		33
14. Colombia	7		47
15. Costa Rica	3	1	57
16. Cuba	12		577
17. Dominican Rep.	2	2	50
18. England	33	5	811
19. Finland	24	3	448
20. France	22	2	402
21. Germany	7		126
22. Greece	5		82
23. Hungary		1	35
24. Iceland	8		359
25. India	444		13,769

Section/Area	Number of		
	Lodges	Centres	Members
26. Indonesia	13		202
27. Ireland	2	1	40
28. Italy	45	9	1,206
29. Ivory Coast	3		30
30. Mexico	14	2	173
31. Netherlands	11	5	451
32. New Zealand	13	6	1,019
33. Norway	3		20
34. Pakistan	1		86
35. Peru	2		27
36. Philippines	18	4	312
37. Portugal	10	1	213
38. Puerto Rico	3	2	62
39. Russia	1		17
40. Scotland	4		110
41. Slovenia	4		69
42. Spain	9	5	316
43. Sri Lanka	9	1	143
44. Sweden	6		156
45. Switzerland	4		40
46. Togo	2		37
47. USA	48	53	4,021
48. Uruguay	5		63
49. Venezuela	2		45
50. Wales	1		68
	929	160	29,657

Lodges attached to Adyar

1. Sol Lodge, Guayaquil, Ecuador	1	12
2. Covenant Lodge (Israel)	1	69
3. Japan	2	58
4. Singapore	1	294
5. Fellows-at-Large		81
	5	514

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

Three new editions and forty reprints, many with attractive new covers, appeared during the year under report.

For various reasons, income decreased during the first half of the year. There was however significant improvement in the second half of the year.

Good use was made of the book-gift fund, many schools and colleges profiting. Libraries of, for example, educational institutions will be approached in this connection as well as Theosophical Lodges and Federations.

Translation and co-publishing permission linked to royalty payments was given for four titles as well as permission for translation and publication of nine titles by TS Lodges and Federations in local

vernacular languages, royalties being waived in these cases.

Efforts will be made to augment editing and proofreading resources, so that more new titles, reprints and new editions can be published, and to increase income from sales and royalty and copyright fees by approaching potential customers, taking part in book exhibitions, opening a modern bookshop in the Olcott School compound etc.

The TPH link in the TS website generates many enquiries and orders and on-line payment is being considered.

Mr S. Ramu

General Manager

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Dr K. Kunjunni Raja, an eminent scholar and distinguished Director of the 'Adyar Library from 1980 to 2003, passed away.

Works nearing completion:

- *The Adyar Library Bulletin* 67/2003
- *Descriptive Catalogue of MSS. on Astronomy and Mathematics* by Dr K. V. Sharma.
- Introduction to *Chandogyopanisad* by Dr S. Sankaranarayanan.
- *Gangesa's Philosophy of God* by Dr S. J. John Vattanky

Reprints to be taken up:

- *Samnyasa Upanisad-s* English translation by Prof. A. A. Ramanathan (ALS.104)
- *Vaisnava Upanisad* Text
- *Sakta Upanisad-s* Text (ALS.10)

During the year 403 books were purchased and 1,942 accessed and 1,945 books were catalogued. The President's Office donated 115 books, TPH sixty-four, the Secretary's Office five, TPH Wheaton four and other donors 1,266.

31,889 frames of photocopies were taken, including photocopies of 136 Palm Leaf MSS, 184 paper MSS, 2,757 frames

of transcripts and 1,102 photocopies from or of rare books and 19,925 frames of books for the Adyar Library.

Lamination work lagged behind, due to a dearth of lamination films. Six books were laminated, 100 books repaired, 680 books bound and forty-five xeroxed.

Two thousand cards were catalogued and entered, 2,500 cards being checked. The Library had 1,024 visitors and was

used by 261 readers and 250 borrowers. 14,582 books were consulted and 1,915 borrowed. Fifty-three rare books and thirty-seven MSS were consulted. Seven scholars from various universities used the Library.

Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam
Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

The Director of the School of the Wisdom from 3 to 29 January was Mr Ed Abdill, a former President of the New York Theosophical Society, his subject being 'Key to the Wisdom'. He emphasized that those who live in harmony with universal principles can find the key to Wisdom and freedom from suffering. Much appreciated afternoon workshops were held once a week by Mrs Mary Abdill on interactive techniques for the presentation of Theosophy. Students from a number of European and Latin American countries, as well as the USA, Australia and Vietnam and of course India attended the course.

From 7 November to 16 December successive courses were held on Christianity, Hinduism and Buddhism. Dr Anand Amaladass succeeded in showing how certain truths recorded in *The Gospel of St John* are revelant today. His knowledge of Hinduism was much appreciated by the

Indian students, who put relevant questions. Dr S. Sankaranarayanan spoke on Vedanta, based on Sri Shankaracharya's *Atmabodha*, which contains the quintessence of the Upanishadic teaching. The explanations given of various Sanskrit terms were extremely useful in conveying a deeper understanding of the text. Dr Krishnanath clarified various difficult concepts in Buddhist teachings, showing how they can be verified in our everyday life. The structure of this session of the School proved successful, suiting students who could attend for a limited period only. Again, participants from a variety of countries attended, including also, in addition to those mentioned above, Canada, Kenya, South Africa, the Philippines, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

Mrs Dolores Gago
Secretary of the School of the Wisdom

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

The Department is being modernized with the help of a P.C., scanner and printer. All catalogues are being digitalized and searching software is planned. A comprehensive effort is being made to classify all documents according to the *Adyar Archives System* developed some years ago. Much remains to be done: completing the classification of documents, scanning many documents and photographs and storing the contents on CD-ROMs.

Dr Pablo Sender from Argentina is a

valuable addition to the staff. Volunteers with specialized knowledge of document preservation are needed.

A new room adjacent to the Museum will be renovated to exhibit art items now in storage. Every year a special exhibition is organized so that delegates to the Convention can view items of interest, which are also shown to special visitors.

Dr C. V. Agarwal
Officer-in-Charge

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Olcott Memorial High School: The School reopened on 6 June 2005 with 639 pupils, who were joined by fifty-eight new pupils, making a total of 697 (404 boys and 293 girls). Most of the children come from a nearby seashore slum which was washed out by the tsunami in December 2004. The children affected were given textbooks and uniforms. All the pupils receive free uniforms, text books and stationery and are served a vegetarian breakfast and lunch on school days.

Out of seventy-one pupils forty-one passed the final examination at the first attempt and sixteen resat.

The children engaged in co-curricular activities (sports, gardening, scouting, crafts) and took part in inter-school

competitions and a drama competition, as well as going on educational excursions. A health check-up was conducted, minor ailments being treated and more serious cases referred to a specialist.

HPB Hostel: Seventeen old pupils returned to the Hostel in June and were joined by nine new boys. One boy returned home at the request of his parents, so there are now twenty-five boys in the hostel. Their day begins with prayers, discussion of various problems and breakfast. After school, they have a snack and play games. After prayer and meditation and, twice a week, listening to stories or playing games, they have supper and study until bedtime at 9.30.

Social Welfare Centre: The Nursery

School reopened on 1 June, with 124 children, including sixty-seven new admissions between two and three years of age. It is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. During that time the children receive a vegetarian breakfast and lunch, learn the English, Tamil and Hindi alphabets as well as numbers. Learning is activity-oriented. They are taught the names of different fruits, vegetables, animals, birds etc. Dr R. Revathy conducts a clinic and looks after their health.

Vocational Training and Weaving Section: Twenty-three young women are undergoing a tailoring course. In the weaving section they learn to weave bedsheets, towels and cloth for making bags. Greeting cards, bags, tailored

dressess, petticoats etc. were made and sold to students of the School of the Wisdom and Convention delegates.

Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary: Dr P. D. Jagannathan and his team care for the animals, vaccinating them and performing minor operations. ABC operations are performed on cats and dogs as well as emergency operations. The in-patients are fed thrice daily or when necessary. The 'outreach programme', serving nearby villages, continued regularly, animals being treated and vaccinated. These programmes are much appreciated by the villagers.

Miss Sumana Kale

Secretary, Olcott Education Society

THE BESANT SCOUT CAMPING CENTRE

Twenty-four institutions and Scout groups utilized the services of the Centre, about 2700 children benefiting from camping activities. The users included NSS of the Avai Home and NCC of the

Stella Maris College. The camping programmes included nature study and bird-watching.

Mr A. Victor Frank

For the Besant Scouting Centre

THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

The TOS continues to gain ground quietly. Four groups now operate in Slovenia and work has started in Bangladesh, actively encouraged by the new TOS Director in India. New groups

in Canada and New Zealand are active and enthusiastic.

The Service Link circulates information on service opportunities and helps establish friendly ties among TOS groups

throughout the world. Stronger TOS groups, for example in New Zealand, France, Spain, Australia and Italy, support groups in India, Pakistan, Cuba, Kenya etc.

TOS groups around the world continue to give priority to social welfare and medical and educational work amongst the underprivileged. In some cases there is collaboration with international aid organizations or ecological, animal welfare and peace associations.

Following the tsunami in South-East Asia in December 2004, there was an unprecedented outpouring of support for relief work undertaken in Adyar and further afield by the Chennai TOS. The

TS and TOS in the United States set up a fund for the victims of the hurricane in the south of that country.

A two-day conference was held at Adyar on 1 and 2 January 2005, immediately following the TS Convention. It helped to cement bonds between Indian and overseas members, facilitated discussion of TOS work and enabled many participants to visit the charitable activities undertaken at the International Headquarters, such as the Olcott School, the HPB Hostel, the Social Welfare Centre and the Animal Dispensary.

Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin
International Secretary, TOS

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

REPORTS OF WORK IN NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR FEDERATIONS

AFRICA, SOUTH

(Where necessary, reports have been translated, edited or condensed)

The Regional Secretary visited all the Lodges and Centres in the country.

Johannesburg Lodge was very active, holding public lectures, Theosophy classes, and other meetings etc. For two years a monthly lecture based on Geoffrey Hodges' book, 'Theosophy, Unrestricted', has attracted a 400 audience. Other subjects of lectures were 'The Future of the Sahara' and 'The New South Africa'. Public lectures in various Lodges drew good attendances

and there was a modest increase in membership. A National Education Officer has been appointed and held regular classes at Johannesburg Lodge. Similar classes are planned for Pretoria Lodge.

Numbers have declined in two other Lodges due to internal disagreements in one case and a building project near the lodge premises in the other.

Theosophical books were purchased

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

The highlight of the year was the celebration of the Centenary of Theosophy in East Africa, with monthly events, culminating in a Convention with the International President, 97 members participating. The President also visited Dar es Salaam and Kampala. Pedro Oliveira made a successful tour of the Section.

Nairobi Lodge in Kenya was the most active, holding weekly meetings in both English and Gujarati and occasional seminars lasting a few days. Nakuru Lodge also met weekly. Dar es Salaam

Lodge, in Tanzania, held four meetings each week. In Zambia the two lodges continued to function. The Lodge in Uganda met twice a month.

A leading bookshop sold books produced by the Theosophical Society in three cities.

The Theosophical Order of Service was active, Nairobi Lodge donating food, clothing and stationery to homes for the needy. Help is given with school fees.

Mr C. P. Robertson Dunn
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTH

The General Secretary visited all the Lodges and Centres in the country.

Johannesburg Lodge was very active, with public lectures, Theosophy classes, book review evenings etc. For two years now monthly courses, based on Geoffrey Hodson's *Basic Theosophy*, have attracted about 40 students. Other subjects of courses were *The Voice of the Silence* and *Light on the Path*. Public lectures in Capetown Lodge drew good attendances

and there was a modest increase in membership. A National Education Officer has been appointed and held regular classes at Johannesburg Lodge. Similar classes are planned for Pretoria Lodge.

Numbers have declined in two other Lodges due to internal disagreements in one case and a building project near the lodge premises in the other.

Theosophical books were purchased

from Adyar and distributed for use as study material for groups or individual members.

Many Theosophists were quietly active in relieving suffering, helping the homeless, the handicapped, animals etc.

A large donation was sent to the tsunami fund in Adyar.

Mrs Susan Kaschula
General Secretary

AFRICA, WEST

A three-day Convention was held in Accra, the keynote being 'Looking in the Present', and a West African School of the Wisdom dealt with the nature of man. At a three-day seminar in Kumasi, the subject of study was *The Spiritual Life* by Annie Besant. The Lodges in Ghana were well represented at these gatherings, but no members from Nigeria, Cameroon and Liberia could attend.

Books studied included *Man and his Bodies*, *The Science of Yoga*, *Meditation*, *The Ancient Wisdom* and *Human Regeneration*.

The Headquarters building is nearing completion and should be officially

opened early in 2006.

Three Council meetings were held, dealing with preparations for the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Section, the completion of the headquarters building, the encouragement of book sales, TS work and a membership drive.

The Theosophist was distributed to institutions in Ghana and Nigeria and letters of appreciation were received in some cases. The Section is grateful for magazines received from abroad.

Mr Paul B. Kwakyi
General Secretary

ARGENTINA

The gathering 'Living Theosophy' was devoted to the study of the *Kathopanishad* and attracted 52 participants, including numerous young people. The theme of the 42nd Summer School (with an attendance of 44) was 'For an active TS', the study material being planned following an internet discussion between members

from all over the country. It included training workshops on various administrative tasks. The Winter School was attended by 60 persons, including 13 non-members as day visitors. The subject was 'The Mystery Schools', the first edition of a booklet issued by the Spanish Publishing House on the subject providing

study material. Two afternoons were devoted to pondering over *The Voice of the Silence*, and Mozart's *Magic Flute* was also on the programme.

Summer and Winter Schools were held at the Centre in San Rafael, where additional construction is in progress.

On the occasion of the 100th AGM of the Section, TOS, Round Table and Spanish Publishing House gatherings were also organized, as well as a meeting on 'Symbols in Music'.

Local gatherings in different locations were devoted to such subjects as 'Everyday Yoga' and the Laws of the

Higher Life, Karma, Dharma, Self-Knowledge.

Lodges studied, for example, *At the Feet of the Master*, *Light on the Path*, *Principles of Theosophical Work*, *Human Regeneration*, *The Science of Yoga* etc. and public lectures dealt with meditation, Self-Knowledge, an introduction to *The Secret Doctrine* etc.

Books published by the Section's Spanish Publishing House are sent to many countries.

Mrs Silvia Liliana Pastore
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

The Annual Convention was held in Brisbane, the theme being 'Theosophy and the Contemporary World', with Mrs Betty Bland as guest speaker.

The International President toured the Section and held a retreat on 'Yoga is Skill in Action' at the Springbrook Centre, where Dr Ravi Ravindra led a School of Theosophy on 'Pilgrim without Boundaries: The Human Search for Truth'. At the Canyonleigh Centre programmes were organized on 'How to Study Theosophy' and 'Exploring Theosophy with N. Sri Ram'. Three retreats for members only and three for members and the public were held at Mt Helena Centre on, for example, an introduction to Theosophy, Theosophy/science and studies in occultism.

Study in different Lodges included lectures, courses and workshops on subjects such as 'Science and *The Secret Doctrine*', 'Exploring Theosophical Insights', 'Foundations of Theosophy', 'Self-Realization', 'God and the New Physics', 'Daily Life as Spiritual Practice', meditation and the study of Krishnamurti's teachings. Among the books studied were *LIFE Your Great Adventure*, *Ancient Wisdom*, *Modern Insight* and *The Science of Yoga*.

The Voice of the Silence and two theosophical Study Papers, *Preparation for Yoga* by Dr Taimni and *Why Theosophy is left undefined* and *The Three Paths in One* by N. Sri Ram were distributed to all members. Lodges and Centres received copies of a new DVD of

a talk by Dr John Algeo on HPB's Diagram of Meditation. A total of 60 talks or seminars were provided for TS centres.

The Section's website has been ex-

panded and attracted as many as 7,634 visits a month.

Mrs Linda Oliveira
National President

BELGIUM

While Lodge membership in the four provincial towns is relatively steady, in Brussels it tends to decrease, possibly partly due to the state of the headquarters building, where the large lecture hall can no longer be used and renovation plans are being blocked.

The Lodges in the provinces have varied programmes of study and public lectures, attended by most of the members. Each of the Brussels Lodges specializes in a particular study and there is little contact between them.

Lodge studies were based on, for example, *Self-Culture*, *Science of Yoga*, Krishnamurti videos (followed by

discussion) and astrology. Activities in Flemish included an introduction to Theosophy and a study of *The Secret Doctrine*.

Weekly public lectures and a fortnightly introductory course were held in Brussels, with about 10 participants, including sympathizers, few of whom however became members. Up to 20 persons attended seminars by guest speakers, for example, Professor Krishna, Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu and Phan-Chon-Ton.

Dr Henriette van der Hecht
General Secretary

BRAZIL

National gatherings included the 24th Summer School of the Section in Sao Paulo, with the key-note 'Science, Ethics and Spirituality' and a study of Dr Taimni's *Science of Yoga*. Juan Vinas held a seminar at the Raja Centre in Sao Paulo on the theme 'Be a Light unto yourself'.

The keynote of the International School in Brazilia was 'The Theosophy of the Mystics', with Mr Pedro Oliveira. At the

winter seminar the subject of study was 'The Universal Character of Theosophy'. The Young Theosophists investigated 'Esoteric and Exoteric Knowledge' at their gathering. Other activities in Brazilia included weekly public lectures on, for example, 'The Challenge of Harmony', 'Primitive Christianity', 'Jung's Psychology and Theosophy', 'The Lesson of Humility', 'The Transforming Power of Truth'.

Courses, seminars etc. were held on 'Tenets of Theosophy' and other subjects. Weekly meetings were devoted to Krishnamurti's thought, and *The Science of Yoga* was studied at members' meetings. In other regions *Self-Culture*, *Man, God and the Universe* and an introduction to *The Secret Doctrine* were the subjects of study.

Training material and several theosophical pamphlets were distributed to Lodges and Centres. All lectures and seminars are shown on 55 channels in 41 cities throughout Brazil.

Membership dropped for economic reasons, but public work continues.

The four Lodges in Bogota and one in Medellin held two-hour study sessions weekly on, for example, *Self-Culture*, *The Secret Doctrine* and *Talks on the Path of Occultism*, seven to ten members attending. Courses and workshops included a basic course and covered such subjects as 'Wisdom and its Application', 'Evolution: Perceptions and Reality' and 'Who is God?' Some subjects of public

A book on the transforming power of primitive Christianity and a translation of *An Outline of Theosophy* were issued by the Publishing House. The quarterly magazine *Sophia* is published in 10,000 copies and is widely distributed.

The Theosophical Order of Service runs an orphanage with 22 children in Brazilia. In other regions TOS activity includes distribution of clothes to derelicts and financial aid to various institutions.

Mr Ricardo Lindemann
General Secretary

COLOMBIA

lectures were 'Freedom of Thought', 'Unity in Diversity' and 'Freeing oneself from the past'.

The magazine appears regularly and is sent via internet to more than 40 members in different parts of Latin America. Programmes are sent out monthly and also publicized by the University of Bogota.

Mr Alberto Ramirez
General Secretary

CUBA

Prospective members have to attend a Basic Course on Theosophy and then to visit different Lodges in order to decide which Lodge they wish to join. The Basic Course lasts five and a half months and is

held twice yearly. About 50 persons registered, but the attendance averaged 25. There was an increase of eleven members during the year.

At members' meetings books such as

Science of Yoga, Thought Power, The Key to Theosophy and articles from theosophical magazines, in particular those by Mme Blavatsky and Radha Burnier, were studied. *Secret Doctrine* study groups functioned weekly.

Public lectures were held once a month on subjects of topical interest, approached

from the theosophical point of view.

The Section held its Centenary Convention, at which the past hundred years were reviewed by twelve members, representing most of the Lodges.

Miss Lelia Fernandez Pagola
General Secretary

ENGLAND

Average attendance at Sunday afternoon workshops at the National Headquarters in London increased slightly (to 20), while there was a slight drop (to around 32) in those attending Sunday evening lectures. In some cases, however, audiences averaged 50 or more. Popular workshops covered such subjects as 'Gnostic Christianity', 'Healing' and 'Yoga Psychology'. Weekly courses continued, the subjects being 'Theosophy: The Way to Self-Discovery' and *The Secret Doctrine*.

The demand for audio-cassettes increased dramatically, more than 1000 cassettes being sold. 643 enquiries were received.

Study afternoons reserved for members and dealing with *The Mahatma Letters to A.P. Sinnett* were an innovation. These sessions proved popular and will be held more frequently. Five further courses are arranged.

A successful international history conference in July, attracting nearly 40 persons, included a symposium on G.R.S. Mead.

The Summer School was held at the University of Bristol, the keynote being 'The Raising of Consciousness', with the International President as guest speaker. The President also gave the Blavatsky Lecture on 'Living Truth: the Future of the Theosophical Society'. The Summer School was attended by 140 persons.

A residential conference on *The Collected Writings* took place at Tekels Park, where the Southern Federation also held its spring conference.

The Information Department provided assistance to various groups and Lodges.

Mr Colin Price
General Secretary

FINLAND

The highlight of the year was the Nordic Workers' Workshop, with participants

from all over Scandinavia as well as from Estonia. It was followed by the Finnish

and Swedish Summer Schools. The International President was the guest of honour at those events. She also lectured in Estonia.

Other summer activities included a weekend school in Northern Finland (with an attendance of about 25) and a weekend and monthly meetings with theosophical 'sister organizations'.

Forty members participated in the Annual Convention.

The 23 Lodges and three study groups held regular meetings at which theosophical literature was studied, for example, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Key to Theosophy*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *The*

Path of Discipleship, *The Masters and the Path* and *The Science of Yoga*. Lodge members also gave short talks followed by discussion.

Public lectures were held regularly in different towns in Finland and in three towns in Estonia, where study weekends were also arranged in four locations.

The magazine appeared bimonthly and two letters were issued to members, enclosing material for study. Theosophical libraries exist in eleven Finnish cities.

Mr Kalevi Dunder
General Secretary

FRANCE

The subject of the Annual Convention, 'Listen to the Song of Life', was introduced by three speakers in a symposium, followed by a discussion and finally by a public lecture by the Portuguese General Secretary, read in his absence by the Vice General Secretary of Portugal.

Work continues regularly in the different Lodges, based on, for example, *At the Feet of the Master*, *Thought-Forms*, *The Key to Theosophy*, *Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom*, *Death and After*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *Esoteric Christianity*, *The Way of Wisdom* by Sri Ram and articles from the magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* and including various themes taken from mythology and Theosophy or from Buddhism. Problems are treated in the light of Theosophy.

Quarterly seminars, organized jointly with the European Federation, focused on the Three Objects and, in two parts, *The Mahabharata*.

The President was the guest of honour at the 'Pays Latins' summer school, the keynote of which was 'Living and Dying'. The 48 participants were joined from time to time by some Dutch members, as the School was held at the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden.

The magazine *Le Lotus Bleu*, which appears ten times annually, is sent to all French members and in addition goes to Belgium, the Ivory Coast and Togo as well as various subscribers abroad. The Publishing House, in addition to regular reprints (depending on the availability of funds), published this year *Self-*

Realization through Love, The Bhakti Sutras of Narada, with comments by Dr Taimni, and Dr. Taimni's *Science and Occultism*. The Library is open on two afternoons weekly.

The Order of Service held its annual fair at the Paris Headquarters, with Indian dances in the Adyar Theater. The CEEC

helps with the publication of books in Eastern European languages. There is a benevolent fund supporting persons in difficulty.

Mrs Nano Leguay
General Secretary

GERMANY

At the triennial General Meeting, the present General Secretary was re-elected for a further term of three years.

The Summer School was again held in Lippstadt, about 35 members and friends attending. The keynote, 'Life is Relationship', was treated in talks and a symposium and discussed in creative and harmonious study groups.

Lodges met regularly weekly or fortnightly to study, for example, *The Secret Doctrine* (referring to Ianthe Hoskins' *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*), *The Key to Theosophy* (which has been reprinted), *Vivekachudamani*, books on Buddhism and teachings from the *Dhammapada*, as well as works by Annie Besant and Krishnamurti.

The lively spring and autumn weekend meetings in the north of Germany attracted about twenty members and sympathizers. Studies were based on the *Bhagavadgita* and *Ancient Wisdom — Modern Insight* by Shirley Nicholson.

The magazine *Theosophie — Adyar* appears three times yearly. The number of subscribers is gradually increasing.

The Order of Service gives financial support to the Olcott School and the orphanage run by the Brazilian Section. Individual members visit hospitals and sick people at home.

Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt
General Secretary

GREECE

The International President paid a much appreciated visit to Greece, where she gave four inspiring lectures. The public lecture attracted an audience of over 200.

The venue of the final lecture was the Parthenon on the Acropolis

A variety of subjects from all religions and traditions was studied in the Lodges

and theosophical teachings were expounded simply and with an intuitive approach.

A Greek translation of *Invisible Helpers* (C. W. Leadbeater) was published. Many articles were translated into Greek and they appear on the Section's website, which offers basic information on the Society

and was visited by 120,000 persons in the first year of its operation.

About 650 persons receive the magazine *Ilisos*.

Mr George P. Sivris
General Secretary

ICELAND

Forty to fifty persons attended the weekly public lectures at the Headquarters in Reykjavik, subjects ranging from the life and work of Mme Blavatsky to interesting developments in modern physics, Tibetan and Zen Buddhism, 'Is God in the Genes?' etc. Other events included an open house on Saturday afternoon (an informal gathering with a short programme to stimulate discussion), discussions, video sessions and beginners' and advanced meditation classes as well as lodge meetings. The lecture hall has been renovated. Six Lodges and a seventh *in spe* are active in Reykjavik and two in other places.

The TS has a good reputation for deeper and serious study and University

Professors are very willing to give lectures and contribute articles to the magazine.

Books are available for two hours weekly and also at regular meetings.

The subject of the four-day summer school was *The Voice of the Silence*. The daily programme began at 8.15 a.m. and lasted into the late summer night. About 35 members attended.

The Voice of the Silence has been reprinted. The magazine *Gangleri* appeared twice and the newsletter for members three times. There was a slight fall in magazine subscriptions (which number about 700).

Mr Gisli V. Jonsson
General Secretary

INDIA

The Indian Section Convention was held as usual at Adyar during the International Convention in December 2004. The undersigned was elected for a term

of three years and Brother R. R. Dalal as Treasurer for the year 2005.

At the Section Headquarters in Varanasi 19 public lectures were

organized, treating subjects such as 'Spiritual Values and their Relevance', 'Human Values and Theosophy', 'Mysticism and Modern Science'. Symposia were also held on education. Weekly study meetings were based on *An Outline of Theosophy* (C. W. Leadbeater) and Mme Blavatsky's *Practical Occultism*. Some Indian scriptures were also studied.

Mr Pedro Oliveira and Professor R. C. Tampi directed study camps at the Headquarters in Varanasi on *An Outline of Theosophy* and on Sri Ram's *Consciousness, its Nature and Action* respectively. Brother P.K. Jayaswal directed a workers' training camp in Hindi. The South Indian Conference in Adyar, directed by Prof. Tampi, included talks by different members on the Presidents of the TS and eminent Theosophists. The study camp at Bhowali, lasting three weeks, was directed by Dr N. C. Ramanujachary and was based on Dr Besants *A Study in Consciousness*. About 30 members attended.

The International President, the International Secretary, the Chairman of

the Indo-Pacific Federation, Mr Pedro Oliveira, as well as the National Lecturers and others travelled within India, attending functions as Chief Guest and giving lectures, directing study camps, visiting Lodges etc.

The General Secretary was the chief guest at the Annual Conferences of several Federations and visited various Lodges, as did the Joint General Secretary, Property Administration.

The Section website has been completely redesigned, the new address being <http://www.theosophyindia.org>. *The Indian Theosophist* will be available on-line.

There has, unfortunately, been insufficient response to the appeal for funds.

Commendable work has been done by the Theosophical Order of Service, in particular by the group in Chennai which did remarkable relief work for the tsunami victims.

Mr S. Sundaram
General Secretary

INDONESIA

The Annual Convention was held as usual in the Sala Lodge building, Surakarta. The theme was 'Man and the Environment'. Mrs Ali Ritsema from the Netherlands lectured on 'The Relation of Man and the Environment' and Dr Parwati Soepangat on 'Man and the Environment in the Universe'. Lavinia Michelle, who

had attended the School of the Wisdom and the Convention at Adyar, shared her impressions. Thirty-nine members from eleven Lodges were present.

The latest issue of *Teosofi* (The Netherlands Section magazine) was distributed as well as the local magazine of Adiwerna Lodge. Three pamphlets

from the TS in Australia had been translated and were distributed by Luxor Lodge.

Mrs Ali Ritsema toured the Section and delivered lectures on 'HPB and *The Secret Doctrine*' in Jakarta and Bandung. She also visited Semarang and Surabaya, as well as Surakarta.

Besides two-monthly lectures in Malang, the East Java Lodges organized a study camp in Trawas, attended by 28 persons, at which eight lecturers spoke

on various topics, mainly concerning meditation.

At the Annual National Council Meeting the strategic plan for the Section was discussed. A committee was formed to deal with problems concerning Lodge buildings. An appeal was made for donations.

Prof. Dr Soepangat Soemarto
General Secretary

ITALY

The Annual Convention was held in Perugia, the theme being 'Service as an Instrument for the Unity of Life'. The Section is helping the Olcott School and the educational programme of the TOS in Pakistan with donations, and a large amount was sent to Adyar for the victims of the tsunami.

Two important initiatives have been launched: On-line Theosophical Libraries, making it possible for those interested to view lists of books available and consult them, and Itinerant Training Seminars, which have proved extremely successful, seminars having been held in four different areas.

The General Secretary visited and spoke in 13 Lodges.

More than 80 persons participated in the usual seminar at Jesolo Lido on 'Karma and Reincarnation: old-fashioned concepts or fundamental aspects of life?'

The 14th seminar in collaboration with the European Federation, on the subject of 'Knowledge, Intuition, Right Action', attracted more than sixty participants. The Section was represented at the 'Pays Latins' summer school at the ITC in Naarden.

The internet site is much appreciated and welcomes more than 3000 visitors monthly. The distribution of publications has been rationalized. Books can now be ordered directly by e-mail. The Section magazine has a circulation of 1300, more than 1000 of which go to subscribers.

The contact of the Section with Adyar is felt by all members to be fundamental. Twelve members attended the 2004 International Convention.

Mr Antonio Girardi
General Secretary

MEXICO

An Autumn School was held at which 'The Septenary in Nature' was studied. There were two cycles of lectures in the national headquarters dealing with 'The Chains of Man and of the Earth' and two seminars: 'An Introduction to the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali' and 'The Control of Thought Forms'.

The subjects of study in the different Lodges included the seven rays, evolution, karma, reincarnation, angels and nature spirits and books such as *The Secret Doctrine*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *The Yoga Sutras* and *The Mahatma Letters*.

A delegation of twelve members attended the Inter-American Federation Congress in Costa Rica, at which Lissette Arroyo participated in a panel on 'Unity in Diversity'.

Professor P. Krishna visited the Section and spoke on 'Searching for Truth'.

There are plans to extend the activity of the Section by holding lectures in different places in the Mexican Republic.

Dr Hugo Gerardo Figueroa Salinas
Mosqueda
General Secretary

NETHERLANDS

The renovation of the Section Headquarters in Amsterdam has been completed, the Office, Bookshop and Library now being on the ground floor and open to the public five days a week.

National study groups on *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Divine Plan* continued their activity.

Material studied in Lodges included articles from the Section magazine, *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Key to Theosophy*, *Human Regeneration* (Radha Burnier), *Teachings on Discipleship* (S.S. Varma) and Patanjali's *Yoga Sutras*. Comparative religion, globalization, symbolism, life and death, consciousness and Theosophy in

practice were also subjects of study.

The International Theosophical Centre in Naarden and the Section engaged in combined activities, including the Summer School and the Naarden School of the Wisdom.

The Inner Life of Krishnamurti (Ariel Sanat) has been published in Dutch. The magazine *Teosofia* appears monthly. The website is kept up to date and includes Lodge programmes.

Mrs Wies Kuiper
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

The National Convention was held in Hamilton, with Betty Bland as guest speaker. The theme was 'The Ancient Wisdom in a Modern World'. Two members gave public talks and there was group exploration in discussions, workshops etc. of what is meant by 'practical theosophy' and how branch meetings could be enlivened. Discussion continued after the Convention and members endorsed the development of a programme on the 'Life and Death' process, to be available for use by Lodges, which are however encouraged to develop their own programmes.

The National Council has evolved a five-year plan interpreting the Objects using current language and developing policies. Group meditations are also included.

Regional Groups were formed in three areas — north, south and central. The

Central Region met early in the year and coordinated the sharing of programmes and speakers. A retreat was held in Palmerston North with Vic Hao Chin.

National Meeting Facilitators gave a range of presentations which included 'Theosophy as a Synthesis of Science, Philosophy and Wisdom', 'Dharma: the Basis of Human Morals and Ethics', 'Understanding Relationships in our Lives', 'Karma in Families', 'The Theosophical World View' etc.

Branch study programmes included subjects such as 'Living a Theosophical Life', 'World Religions' and 'Islam — the Muslim Point of View'.

A free toll number is available for enquirers.

John Vorstermans
General Secretary

THE PHILIPPINES

The Annual Convention was held in Mindanao and consisted of a retreat followed by symposia on peace and conflict and detailed deliberations on forthcoming Lodge programmes. At its Convention, the Visayas-Midanao Theosophical Federation formally organized its Federation Council, which plans to meet four times yearly.

A seven-day seminar on Theosophy

was organized at the National Headquarters, where public lectures are held monthly.

The General Secretary gave lectures on 'Theosophy', 'Karma' and 'Reincarnation' as well as 'Religion and Conflict Resolution' to various organizations.

He also toured New Zealand and spoke at the Inter-American Theosophical Federation Conference in Costa Rica, where

he held a Self-Transformation Seminar.

The Golden Link School has opened its Grade 6 class. Next year the High School will be opened. More than 130 students are enrolled, mostly supported by scholarships. After an interval of one year,

the Besant School of Bacolod reopened.

Land has been purchased for a future theosophical school.

Mr Vicente Haó Chin, Jr
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

The most important event during the year was the visit of the International President to Portugal. Her programme included a question-and-answer session and three talks, two at the Section Headquarters in Lisbon, and a public talk with an attendance of over one hundred at Evora Public Library.

The fifth Theosophical Seminar under the auspices of the European Federation was held at Evora and attracted many

members and sympathizers from different areas. The subject was 'The Unity of Life'.

Four public lectures were delivered at the Section Headquarters. Lodge meetings took place fortnightly or monthly.

The Section is still recovering its stability and is much helped by the European Federation and its Chairman.

Dr Licio Correia
General Secretary

SPAIN

The Summer School in San Feliu, with the keynote 'Knowing that we are the Architects of our own Destiny', was attended by about 170 participants. The speakers included Juan Vinas from Argentina, who also visited six Lodges and spoke on 'Good and Evil', 'The Mysterious Human Mind' and other subjects. Seven other speakers took part in symposia at the Summer School.

'Theosophical Days' in El Escorial (Madrid) on the theme 'Intuition' drew an attendance of about 40.

Work in the Lodges took the form of

public lectures, members' meetings, study groups and workshops. Studies were based on, for example, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *The Ancient Wisdom*, *Talks on the Path of Occultism*, *The Bhagavadgita*, *The Voice of the Silence* and *The Masters and the Path*. One of the Lodges also held two family meetings and performed the ceremony of the Round Table.

The General Secretary supported a new Study Group with a lecture on 'The Theosophical Society and Spiritual Self-Realization'.

Books studied in the Lodges included Patanjali's *Yoga Sutras*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *Human Regeneration*, *Theosophy Explained*, *Talks on the Path of Occultism* and *At the Feet of the Master*. Lectures and study sessions were organized. Almost

all the Lodges perform the Healing Ritual. One of the Lodges held family meetings and a monthly Round Table ceremony.

Mr Jose Tarragó
General Secretary

SWEDEN

The Summer School, with the keynote 'Reality and Truth', was held at Kreivila in Finland, the guest speaker being the International President. Four Finnish members lectured at the school in Swedish. There were 28 participants.

Five Swedish members attended the Scandinavian Workers' Workshop which followed the School.

A study weekend on *The Ancient Wisdom* drew 20 participants.

Lodge activities included lectures on

various theosophical subjects and study groups on, for example, 'Meditation and Dialogue', *The Secret Doctrine*, *Self-Culture* and Patanjali's *Yoga-Sutras*.

A Swedish translation of *Self-Culture* is in preparation. The magazine appears four times a year and can be read in part on the internet.

Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund
General Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

At the national headquarters, Olcott, there have been many changes in staff due to the departure or retirement of long-term workers. But the past year has been one of integration and further development of several initiatives. Study programmes at the Headquarters included a three-week course on Theosophy and an eight-week introduction to *The Secret Doctrine*, as well as courses on Emerson and on meditation, yoga classes and courses of a more psychological nature. The 'Olcott

Experience' brings workers from local groups throughout the country to the national headquarters.

Study material in the Lodges included books by Mme Blavatsky (*The Key to Theosophy*, *The Voice of the Silence*), Annie Besant (*The Ancient Wisdom*, *Thought Power*), C. W. Leadbeater (*Man Visible and Invisible*, *The Masters and the Path*, *Man, How, Whence and Whither*, *Man and his Bodies*), Dr I. K. Taimni (*Man, God and the Universe*), Geoffrey

Hodson (*Basic Theosophy, Call to the Heights*) and others, as well as *At the Feet of the Master, Light on the Path* and an introductory course by Dr Algeo.

A revised Lodge Manual has been issued with study suggestions and speakers are provided to local groups, federations and camps for 21 programmes.

The new study material for the National Lodge (which is composed of over 500 members living in different areas and is accessible by computer) is Clara Codd's *The Technique of the Spiritual Life*.

E-learning courses are now available

world wide. A video has been produced on the seven international Presidents of the Theosophical Society — 'When you are one with every Heart that beats' — and is being made available free of charge.

More material has been made available in Spanish and translations of many books on Theosophy and related subjects have been published in a variety of languages.

Mrs Betty Bland
National President

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

AMERICA, CENTRAL

The work of Blavatsky Lodge in Managua, Nicaragua, included study of *The Secret of Self-Realization* and *Principles of Theosophical Work* (by Dr Taimni) as well as *The Mahatma Letters*. The history of the Theosophical Society in Nicaragua was reviewed.

Teoti Lodge in El Salvador, with nine members and some regular and more

sporadic visitors, holds study programmes on Theosophical themes once a week, the programmes being prepared quarterly. This study has proved beneficial. The Lodge's large library functions well.

Mr Francisco Mayorga Obando
Organizing Secretary

AUSTRIA

Frequent meetings were held in all three Lodges.

Graz Lodge ran two weekly study groups, on *The Key to Theosophy* and 'Self-Realization in the esoteric tradition'.

Vienna Lodge organized three meetings weekly, devoted to lectures, discussions and the study of theosophical writings.

In Linz weekly meetings were held at which extracts from *The Voice of the Silence* and other esoteric writings were read out and discussed.

Mr Franz Durkowitsch
Regional Secretary

CANADA

Mr George Duguay retired as Organizing Secretary and Mr Pierre Laflamme was appointed *ad interim* in his place, the election to take place in the spring of 2006.

In one Lodge activities have improved

and a study group has started on *The Secret Doctrine*, which is proving successful.

A new group has started and is studying *The Key to Theosophy*, with lively discussions.

Some of the Lodges are thriving, others seem to be in transition, with members dying or dropping out. Another Lodge has virtually ceased to meet.

The internet site has proved successful,

with about 1050 visitors daily.

Mr George Duguay
Former Organizing Secretary

CHILE

Studies in the Lodges during the year were based on, for example, *The Proem of The Secret Doctrine, A Study in Consciousness, The Bhagavadgita, Thoughts for Aspirants, The Mahatma Letters, The Solar System, Light on the Path* and various articles by N. Sri Ram, Radha Burnier, G. Hodson, Clara Codd etc.

A course on Theosophy was held at three levels. The subject of study days for members included the Objects of the Theosophical Society and *The Voice of the Silence*. The Olcott Study group had good audiences, consisting especially of young people, for its course on *Self-Culture*.

Between three and five public lectures

were held monthly, on, for example, 'The Power of Thought', 'Human Regeneration', 'The Thought of Plato', 'Living and Dying'. Publicity is effected through the magazine, with articles translated from *The Theosophist* etc. and through posters, leaflets, radio announcements and the internet. The Library functions well.

Mr Juan Cassibba and Mr and Mrs Palmeri visited the country and held workshops for members and courses and lectures for the public.

The Order of Service is active in many directions.

Miss Ana Gloria Bustos
Organizing Secretary

IRELAND

On 25 June the Theosophical Society in Ireland, composed of members in Northern and Southern Ireland, was inaugurated under the Chairmanship of the International Vice-President, Dr. John Algeo. Since then, membership has increased.

Belfast and Limerick Lodges held

regular weekly meetings, dealing with various theosophical subjects, different members giving talks or readings and leading discussions. In Belfast *The Watch-Tower Notes* and *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy* formed the basis of study sessions. In Limerick Lodge study was based on extracts from, for example, the

writings of Mme Blavatsky and Dr Besant; among other subjects, Jewish mysticism was discussed. The TOS healing service was performed monthly.

Two new study groups are being

formed in Dublin and Coleraine.

Mrs Marie Harkness
Organizing Secretary

IVORY COAST

It was again a difficult year, especially due to the situation in the country. It was impossible for many members to pay their dues and for us to keep proper accounts.

But we kept the theosophical flag flying. Weekly meetings were held, at which the main subjects of discussions, talks, courses and forums were the inner causes of war

and the conditions of true peace. Thus it was possible for us to understand our present situation in the light of Theosophy.

Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh
Organizing Secretary

NORWAY

The Organizing Secretary attended the Nordic Days in Finland and was much inspired by the support offered to Norway. The document drawn up after the gathering will be of great help.

The activity of the undersigned was hampered by illness and the work in Oslo was also held up for health reasons, but

activity will now be renewed. *Human Regeneration* will be prepared for printing and a programme of meetings and public lectures is in preparation.

Mrs Agnes Gaasemyr
Organising Secretary

SCOTLAND

The visit of the International President to Scotland was the highlight of the year. She visited and lectured in all four Lodges. The impact she made will last a long time.

The magazine *Circles* has been re-launched and is proving successful.

The Regional Council has continued to support financially those Lodges without

their own buildings and also contributed to the tsunami relief fund.

Work has begun on cataloguing and preserving the archives of the TS in Scotland.

The undersigned represented Scotland at the European Council Meeting in Naarden.

Mr Martin Lowe
Organizing Secretary

SLOVENIA

All four Lodges held weekly meetings. Books by theosophical authors, for example, Dr I. K. Taimni, Dr Annie Besant and C. W. Leadbeater, were studied, as well as subjects such as yoga and ethics. There were fortnightly meetings for candidates for TS membership. Adyar Lodge in Ljubljana also held a monthly mini-school on Wallace Slater's *Raja Yoga*. Meetings for members of all the Lodges were organized, consisting of study, a lecture and a social gathering.

The guest speakers at the winter and summer schools, attended by up to fifty

members, were the Chairman of the European Federation and the International Secretary respectively. The latter also gave four public talks in different towns and four lectures in Adyar Lodge, Ljubljana.

The magazine *Teozofska Misel* (Theosophical Thought) appears quarterly.

The TOS has taken up activities, for example, helping the homeless.

Dr Dusan Zagar
Organizing Secretary

TOGO

The members studied *The Science of Yoga*, the seven planes of consciousness (using the *Gayatri*) and the prayers of the religions (in pamphlet form).

The TS in Togo has great financial difficulties, arising from the state of the country. They continue to survive thanks

to the sacrifice of some members. About half the members cannot pay their dues, but appreciate theosophical teachings and wish to remain with us.

Mr M. Dam Tsowu
Organizing Secretary

URUGUAY

Activities have improved in three of the five lodges. A 'School for Life' is being organized.

Renovation work continues in the TS building, for which a reserve fund has been formed.

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

A new library catalogue is in preparation, including the latest acquisitions. Some books are on the web page. The Library reading room is open twice a week.

The weekly yoga classes were suspended, since only three persons were attending.

A branch of the International Vegetarian Society is being formed in Uruguay, many TS members and sympathizers joining. The first meeting took place at the TS headquarters.

Mrs Ema de Souza Leal
Organizing Secretary

WALES

Cardiff Lodge continues to hold weekly lectures on esoteric subjects and group meditations. Different aspects of Theosophy are studied at regular meetings.

Two new study groups in North Wales have been joined by a new group in the south, at Swansea. A lecture by the English General Secretary drew an audience of fifty.

The new groups are studying courses on Theosophy. Some new members attended the English summer school and appreciated the brotherly atmosphere.

Ms Julie Cunningham
Acting Organizing Secretary

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

ASIA, SOUTH-EAST

Membership has increased considerably in Bangladesh. Regular study in the Lodges is lacking, but there are many subscribers to *The Theosophist*. The Lodge in Dhaka, which has a library, tried to organize study courses. Comilla Lodge held weekly study and discussion meetings. Its library was open daily. TOS activities were also increased.

In Malaysia, Selangor Lodge held weekly study and discussion meetings on

The Key to Theosophy and *At the Feet of the Master*; attendances increased. Members visited Seremban Lodge and are trying to revitalize it. Penang Lodge does not meet, members preferring to study on their own, but the Secretary corresponded regularly with the Presidential Representative.

Dr C. V. Agarwal
Presidential Representative

BOLIVIA (AND PARAGUAY)

Weekly meetings were held in each of the Lodges and all the members met once a month to study some fundamental subject.

Study was based on, for example, *The Laws of the Higher Life*, *Practical Occultism* and brotherly relations within the TS. A cycle of public lectures on different theosophical teachings attracted good audiences.

In addition, there were daily activities at the headquarters, videos being shown to candidates for TS membership, followed by discussion.

The brothers in Paraguay continued their normal activities, meeting weekly to study theosophical subjects and cultivate brotherly relations.

Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez
Presidential Representative

COSTA RICA

The Interamerican Theosophical Federation Congress was held in Costa Rica, with an attendance of 110, the

keynote being 'Many Paths to One Truth'. The International President and many other speakers of calibre participated.

There are plans for a Theosophical Centre in Costa Rica, in order to strengthen the work in Central America.

Subjects of study in the Lodges included Yoga, 'Science and Spirituality', 'Symbolism in Fairy Tales', Rumi, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Divine Plan* etc. Attendance varied between five and seventeen. Introductory courses were held, as well as a course on *At the Feet of the Master*.

The subject of the Summer School was 'Teachings on Discipleship', based on *The*

Mahatma Letters and related works. There was also a weekly study group devoted to *The Mahatma Letters*. The theme at a Youth Camp was 'The Sacred Golden Map of Theosophy and its Golden Scale', which covered practically all aspects of theosophical teachings. Arising from such activities, a youth group is being formed in San Jose and an inter-American Network of Young Theosophists.

Ms Maria de los Angeles Orlich Soto
Presidential Representative

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The TS in the Dominican Republic became a Presidential Agency in March 2005, having been previously attached to the TS in Puerto Rico. The Presidential Representative, who lives in Puerto Rico, visits the Dominican Republic once a month.

There are two Lodges, in Santo Domingo and Puerto Plata, as well as a study group in San Cristobal. Books by Annie Besant and Dr Taimni as well as *At the Feet of the Master* were studied in

the Lodges. The President of the Inter-American Federation gave a public lecture and a Basic Course on Theosophy in Santo Domingo, attended by 30 persons.

A three-day summer school was attended by 29 participants.

A bulletin, *Dharma Teosofico*, is printed quarterly.

Mrs Magaly Polanco
Presidential Representative

HUNGARY

At the Annual General Meeting 70% of the members attended or were represented.

The study group in Budapest took up topical questions, such as karma, death and after, reincarnation etc., for discussion.

Monthly public lectures were held, mostly dealing with Theosophy in daily life and cosmogony. Questions by those attending were dealt with at a meeting a few days later. Four additional public lectures were

given, partly outside Budapest. Also outside the capital, there is a study group of non-members. Theosophy was the subject of a radio chat show.

The Seven Human Temperaments by E. Wood and *The Seven Rays* by Geoffrey

Hodson were published in Hungarian in one volume.

Mr Thomas Martinovich
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

Two public lectures held at Avari Towers, a five-star hotel, drew good audiences. Weekly study classes were based on Barborka's *Divine Plan* and Clara Codd's *Ageless Wisdom of Life*. Classes were held on the following subjects: 'From Knowledge to Wisdom', numerology, astrology, the *I Ching* and related hermetic sciences.

The Karachi Theosophist appeared bi-monthly. *At the Feet of the Master* has been translated into Urdu and may be published. The Library and reading room are open daily.

Mr Dara F. Mirza
Presidential Representative

PERU

Fifteen public talks were held during the year, on subjects such as 'The Wisdom of the Upanishads', 'Spiritual Life for Man in the World' etc. A course on Theosophy failed to attract an audience.

The Lodges studied *The Key to Theosophy* and *Principles of Theosophical Work* by Dr Taimni and subjects such as angels and astrology.

Financial difficulties prevented the

issue of the magazine.

An internet service has been rented.

The TOS helped three orphanages with medicine and clothes.

There was little success with the ongoing lawsuit concerning land.

Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar
Presidential Representative

PUERTO RICO

The two Lodges in Puerto Rico now form a Presidential Agency, as do the two

Lodges in the Dominican Republic, hitherto attached to Puerto Rico.

Weekly lectures were held and any persons who showed interest were directed to the Lodges.

In different locations, a Lodge has been reopened and is attracting good attendances and study groups are being started.

The President of the Interamerican Federation visited the country and gave two lectures, one on *The Mahatma Letters*, and a course of training for speakers.

Some pamphlets have been republished and others will be provided by the US Section for distribution to the public. It is planned to revive the magazine *Heraldo Teosofico*.

Some improvements are being made to the headquarters building.

Mr Benito Rodriguez
Presidential Representative

RUSSIA

(No Report)

SRI LANKA

The Lodges have been reorganized where necessary and Lodge work is proceeding.

A quarterly newsletter has been published, as well as, in Singhalese, a newsletter and an introductory brochure on Theosophy and booklets on the Art of Living and on the life of Colonel Olcott and his contribution to Sri Lanka. Singhalese translations of *At the Feet of the Master* and *Olcott and the Buddhist Revival* are being published with the help of a grant from Adyar.

A Trust Fund has been started for

the publication and distribution of theosophical literature.

There were monthly public meetings at the headquarters in Colombo, where speakers included Mr Pedro Oliveira, and some of the subjects were 'Karma and Theosophy', 'Spiritual Living' and various religions.

Renovation work has been done on the headquarters and a reference library and meditation room are now open to members.

Mr S. M. Jayathilake
Presidential Representative

SWITZERLAND

The TS in Switzerland no longer having a sufficient number of members or Lodges to constitute a Section, the under-

signed has been appointed Presidential Representative.

Four groups have been meeting in the

premises in Geneva, sometimes attended by the same members, about fifteen of whom are really active. One group studied Danielle Audoin's course on Theosophy, another specialized in Christian gnosis and the two other groups studied science and religion in relation to Theosophy.

The Presidential Representative and her closest collaborators have started a course on basic Theosophy, which has met with

success. The Chairman of the European Federation will give two seminars.

A small group is active in the German-speaking area.

The TS in Canada will kindly include the ST in Switzerland in its internet site for French-speaking sections etc.

Mrs Eliane Gaillard

Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

Membership has increased from 15 to 46 and a new study group has started.

Study in the Lodges and study groups was based on, for example, *The Mahatma Letters*, *The Gayatri* and *Self-Culture* (Dr Taimni) and *Thought Power* (Annie Besant).

The President of the Interamerican Federation held an introductory seminar

on Theosophy, an introductory course and a public lecture.

Periodical bus trips, lasting up to six hours, were made to support new study groups.

Mrs Nelly Nouell

Coordinator for Venezuela

LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

COVENANT LODGE (ISRAEL)

Attendance at Lodge activities decreased, probably due to the great expansion of groups offering lectures on Buddhism, the Kaballa and various new-age subjects. To counteract this tendency, the website has been upgraded, with more information on Theosophy, advertising has increased and a new course has started on dealing with harmful emotions. The Centre in Ramat Gan has been renovated.

At the three weekly members' meetings, study was based on, for example, *The Mahatma Letters*, *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Voice of the Silence*, discrimination as taught in *Viveka Chudamani* and various theosophical sources.

Three public meetings were held monthly. The meeting in a public hall usually attracted an attendance of about fifty with subjects such as 'Divine Wisdom

and the Human Brain', intuition, karma and grace. Fewer persons attended the public talks in the lodge premises which were on, for example, practical Theosophy, symbols, TS history, meditation etc.

Seminars on 'Love, Enlightenment and the Healing of the Earth' and 'Beauty, Nature and Extasy' attracted 200 and 130 participants respectively. Six courses were attended by an average of ten persons.

The International Secretary visited the Lodge for about a week and spoke on six subjects.

The magazine continued publication and *Practical Occultism* and a new edition of *Light on the Path* appeared.

Mr Abraham Oron
President

NIPPON AND OSAKA LODGES (JAPAN)

(No Report)

SINGAPORE

Membership continued to increase as a result of the two Basic Theosophy Courses conducted during the year (now known

as 'A Course in Theosophy' and extending over a period of two weeks instead of seven, with the same content). Some of

the new members lapsed after a certain time, but there was an overall increase and many earnest students are among the new members.

A members' study class on *A Study on Consciousness* (Dr Besant) in 18 sessions was completed by about 54 participants, after some had dropped out.

Public talks covered such subjects as vegetarianism, initiation, the purpose of the TS, Devas, Esoteric Christianity, Wesak and the Dead Sea Scrolls. Informal study group meetings were started to answer students' specific questions.

Sixty-five persons — members and

their families — attended an enjoyable outing.

Overseas visitors included Mrs Betty Bland, National President of the TS in America, and Dr N. C. Ramanujachary from Adyar, who gave six lectures and conducted a study class on *Vivekachudamani*.

The website has been enhanced and includes a list of books for sale. A newsletter is available in digital format.

Mr Chong Sanne
President

Mr Abraham Oon
President

NIPPON AND OSAKA LODGES (JAPAN)

(No Report)

SINGAPORE

as 'A Course in Theosophy' and extending over a period of two weeks instead of seven, with the same content. Some of

Membership continued to increase as a result of the two Basic Theosophy Courses conducted during the year (now known

FEDERATIONS

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

The International President, Vice-President and Secretary conducted programmes in Europe during the year. The President visited Greece, Finland, where she held a Nordic Workshop, Estonia, Scotland, England, where she was guest speaker at the Summer School and gave the Blavatsky lecture. She also lectured in two cities in Portugal and was the guest speaker at the Pays Latins Summer School held at the ITC in Naarden.

The International Vice-President visited Ireland and conducted the Naarden School of the Wisdom in Holland and the International Secretary visited various countries, including Slovenia.

The Chairman of the European Federation held seminars and lectures in France, Slovenia, Italy and Portugal and helped to reorganize the work in Switzerland. The Vice-Chairman, Carlos Guerra, represented Portugal at the Iberian Days organized by the Spanish Section.

The CEEC Committee, which helps Eastern European countries, contributed to the publication of 1000 copies in Estonian of *The Voice of the Silence* and *The Philosophy of the Bhagavadgita* by Subbha Row.

Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu
Chairman

INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

The highlight of the year was the Triennial Conference held in Singapore on 'Working Together for Theosophy', with over 100 participants. The International President was the guest of honour and other speakers included Mr Vic Hao Chin Jr and Miss Joy Mills. Forums were held on strengthening the work in various areas and on theosophical literature in languages other than English.

The Federation President visited Sri Lanka and spoke in three towns to the

public and to members. In India he lectured in Mumbai and Pune and held a study camp at the Section Headquarters in Varanasi on C. W. Leadbeater's book *An Outline of Theosophy*.

The Federation coordinated the publication of a Chinese edition of *At the Feet of the Master*.

Mr Pedro Oliveira
President

INTER-AMERICAN THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

The Inter-American Congress was held at San Jose in Costa Rica, with the theme 'Many Pathos to One Truth', the International President being the Guest of Honour. The Congress was attended by 115 persons from 19 countries.

The Federation President undertook various lecture tours in Central and South America, sometimes accompanied by coworkers, holding talks and courses on a variety of theosophical subjects, as well as a lecturers' training course, and gave radio and television interviews. She also helped to reorganize the work in various places. Mrs Magaly Polanco, Mrs Silvia Blajer, Mrs Lily Pastore, Mr and Mrs Palmeri and Mr Juan Cassibba also lectured in

several countries. Speakers from outside the area included Professor P. Krishna, Dr Nelda Samarel and Mr Isaac Jauli.

The Society having been reactivated in Panama, Honduras and other countries, there are further plans for expansion in the Caribbean Region.

The Federation Newsletter appears twice a year in English and Spanish.

Current issues of *The Theosophist* will be translated into Spanish by the Argentinian Section, to be posted on the web. A basic Theosophy course on CD rom is planned.

Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind
President

PAN-AFRICAN THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

Progress is slowly being made with the establishment of the Federation. A website has attracted enquiries and resulted in some new members.

Newsletters Nos. 5 and 6 have been distributed, with news from the Anglophone Sections and an article in French supplied by the International Secretary of the TOS.

The East and Central African Section celebrated the centenary of the start of Theosophy in East Africa. The theme of the Centenary Convention was 'Truth is Timeless'. Numerous delegates attended from all regions of the Section as well as from South Africa and India. The International President was the guest of honour

and gave several enlightening talks. The other guest lecturer was the President of the Indo-Pacific Federation, Mr Pedro Oliveira, who undertook a lecture tour prior to the Convention.

The Convention of the West African Section was held in Accra, Ghana. Several study programmes were undertaken during the year. Work has started on the Sections Headquarters building.

The South African General Secretary visited all the Lodges and study centres in the country.

Mr Tom Davis
Chairman

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

Date	Section	General Secretary	Address	Magazine	Email address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr C. P. Robertson Dunn	... PO Box 45928, Nairobi 00100, Kenya	... <i>The Theosophical Light</i>	cprdunn@nbnet.co.ke
1909	Africa, South	... Mrs Susan Kaschula	... No.3, 'Cragwood', 10, 5th St., Parkhurst 2193, Johannesburg, Gateng	... <i>The South African Theosophist</i>	susan@kaschula.co.za
1956	Africa, West	... Mr P. B. Kwakye	... PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana	... <i>The West African Theosophist</i>	tswestafrica@yahoo.com
1929	America, Central *	... Mr Francisco Mayorga Obando	... Super La Colonia Linda Vista 1C Este, y 1/2C Sur, Managua, Nicaragua	...	bemapo03@hotmail.com fcormayorga@hotmail.com
1920	Argentina	... Mrs Silvia Liliana Pastore	... Casilla de Correo 166, 5600 San Rafael, Provincia de Mendoza	... <i>Teosofia en Argentina</i>	stargentina@sociedad-teosofica.com.ar
1990	Asia, Southeast †	... Dr C. V. Agarwal	... The Theosophical Society Adyar, Chennai 600 020, India	...	theosoc@dataone.in
1895	Australia	... Mrs Linda Oliveira	... 4th fl., 484 Kent St., Sydney, NSW 2000	... <i>Theosophy in Australia</i>	tshq@austheos.org.au
1912	Austria *	... Mr Franz Durkowsch	... Altmühlweg 5/6, A-4810, Gmunden	... <i>Theosophie Adyar</i>	
1911	Belgium	... Dr H. van der Hecht	... 166 Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	
1965	Bolivia †	... Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez	... Casilla de Correo 3911, Cochabamba	...	viajero@supernet.com.bo
1920	Brazil	... Mr Ricardo Lindemann	... Sociedade Teosofica no Brazil, SGAS Quadra 603, N. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasilia (DF)	... <i>Theosophia</i>	teosofia@stb.org.br
1924	Canada *	... Mr Pierre Laflamme	... 89 Riverside Promenade, St-Lambert, QC J4R 1A3	... <i>The Light Bearer</i>	president@theosophical.ca
1920	Chile *	... Miss Ana Gloria Bustos	... Casilla 3603, Santiago 21	... <i>Revista Teosofica Chilena</i>	sociedadteosofica@entelchile.net
1937	Colombia	... Mr Alberto Ramírez	... Cra. 6, No. 56-40, Bogotá-2	... <i>Selección Teosofica</i>	teosofiacolombiana@hotmail.com
1997	Costa Rica †	... Ms Maria Orlich	... Apartado 8-6710-1000, San José	...	orlichsm@yahoo.com
1905	Cuba	... Miss Lelia Fernandez Pagola	... Apartado de Correos 6365, La Habana 10600	... <i>Revista Teosofica Cubana</i>	teocuba@yahoo.com
1987	Dominican Rep. †	... Mrs Magaly Polanco	... Urb Venus Gardens, Cupido 704, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00926, USA	...	polanc@prtc.net
1888	England	... Mr Colin Price	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1U 8EA	... <i>Insight</i>	info@theosophical-society.org.uk
1907	Finland	... Mr Kalevi Dunder	... Teosofinen Seura, Vironkatu 7 C 2, Fin 00170, Helsinki	... <i>Teosofi</i>	teosofinen.seura@netti.fi
1899	France	... Mrs Nano (Jeannine) Leguay	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	editionsadyar@wanadoo.fr
1902	Germany	... Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt	... Friedrich-Wilhelm-Str. 54, D-12103, Berlin	... <i>Theosophie Adyar</i>	
1928	Greece	... Mr G. P. Sivris	... 25 Voukourestiou St., 106 71-Athens	... <i>Ilisos</i>	info@theosophicalsociety.gr
1907	Hungary †	... Mr Thomas Martinovich	... Hunyadi Janos ut 17. II. 8, H-1011 Budapest	... <i>Teozofia</i>	tshutau7@hu.inter.net
1921	Iceland	... Mr Gisli V. Jonsson	... PO Box 1257 Ingolfstraeti 22, 121 Reykjavik	... <i>Gangleri</i>	ts@gudspekifelagid.is
1891	India	... Mr S. Sundaram	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010	... <i>The Indian Theosophist</i>	theosophy_vns@yahoo.com
1912	Indonesia	... Dr Soepangat Sumarto	... Jalan Anggrek Nelimurni A-104, Jakarta 11410, Timur	... <i>Theosofi</i>	icak@dnnet.net.id
1919	Ireland *	... Mrs Marie Harkness	... 97 Mountsandel Road, Coleraine - Co. Londonderry BT52 1TA	... <i>Insight</i>	mariememharkness@fsmail.net

1954	Israel ▲	... Mr Abraham Oron	... PO Box 4014, Ramat-Gan, Israel 52140	... Or	mail@theosophia.co.il
1902	Italy	... Mr Antonio Girardi	... Via Quintino Sella, 32, C.P. 640, 36100 Vicenza	... Rivista Italiana di Teosofia	sti@teosofica.org
1997	Ivory Coast * (W. Africa)	... Mr Pierre-Maefoire Kouahoh	... Yopougon, 23 Rue Princesse B. P. 3924, Abidjan 23	... Sophia	pm_kouahoh@hotmail.com
1971	Japan ▲	... Mr Naotsugu Takahashi	... 4-12-11 Nakamachi, Nishi Tokyoshi, Tokyo 202 0013		
1919	Mexico	... Dr Hugo Gerardo Figueroa Salinas Mosqueda	... Ignacio Mariscal, 126, Col. Tabacalera C.P. 06470 Mexico 1, D.F.		sociedadteosofica@prodigy.net.mx
1897	Netherlands, The	... Mrs Wies Kuiper	... Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam	... Theosofia	info@teosofie.nl
1896	New Zealand	... Mr John Vorstermans	... 18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3	... Theosophy in New Zealand	hq@theosophy.org.nz
1913	Norway *	... Mrs Agnes Gaasemyr	... Stadion Vei 9, N - 5162 Laksevaag	... Teosofen	agngaase@online.no
1948	Pakistan †	... Mr Dara Mirza	... Jamshed Memorial Hall, M. A. Jinna Road, Karachi	... The Karachi Theosophist	azra1@cyber.net.pk
1924	Peru †	... Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	... Jr. Republica de Portugal 152, Breña, Lima 5	... Búsqueda	teosoficaperu@hotmail.com
1933	Philippines, The	... Mr Vicente Haó Chin, Jr.	... Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City	... The Philippine Theosophist	tspace@info.com.ph
1921	Portugal	... Dr Licio Correia	... Sociedade Teosofica de Portugal Rua Passos Manoel no. 20 cave 1150 - 260 Lisboa	... Osiris	shakti@sapo.pt
1925	Puerto Rico †	... Mr Benito Rodriguez	... GPO Box 36-1766, San Juan, 00936-1766	... Heraldo Teosófico	unionteo@prtc.net
1994	Russia †	... Mrs Nina Veligon	... Pereulok Soviet House 4, Flat 56, 455036 Magnitogorsk		veligon_ts@hotmail.ru
1910	Scotland *	... Mr Martin Lowe	... 28 Great King Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6QH	... Circles	martinlowe@free.fr
1889	Singapore ▲	... Mr Chong Sanne	... 540 Sims Avenue, No 03-04 Sims Avenue Centre, Singapore 387603	... Newsletter	sanne@singaporelodge.org
1992	Slovenia *	... Dr Dušan Žagar	... Kunaverjeva 1 SLO-1000 Ljubljana	... Teozofska Misel	zagardusan@yahoo.com
1921	Spain	... Mr Jose Tarragó	... Calle Pomaret, 114, 08017 - Barcelona	... Sophia	J. TARRAGO@terra.es
1926	Sri Lanka †	... Mr S. M. Jayatilake	... 20/13, Race Course Road, Badulla (BD) 90000	... The Sri Lanka Theosophist	
1895	Sweden	... Mr Pertti Spets	... Henriksdalsringen 23, SE - 131 32 Nacka	... Tidlös Visdom	teosofiska.samfundet.adyar@telia.com
1910	Switzerland †	... Mrs Eliane Gaillard	... 17 Chemin de la Côte, CH -1282 Dardagny, Genève	... La Voix(e) Theosophique	egaillard@bluewin.ch
1997	Togo *	... Mr M. Dam Tsowu	... BP 215, Atakpame		
1886	USA	... Mrs Betty Bland	... PO Box 270, Wheaton, IL 60189-0270	... The Quest	olcott@theosmail.net
1925	Uruguay *	... Mrs Ema de Souza Leal	... Javier Barrios Amorín 1085, Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo		samadhi@internet.com.uy
1922	Wales *	... Ms Julie Cunningham	... Tan y fron, Red Wharf Bay, Penarth Anglesey, Gwynedd LL75 8HJ UK	... Insight	j.cunningham@homecall.co.uk

Date refers to the date of formation

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

▲ Lodge attached to Adyar

The Council of the European Federation of National Societies: *Chairman:* Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Điêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, 45000 Orleans, France. Email: kimdieu_ts@magic.fr
 Inter-American Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mrs Terezinha Kind, SHIS QI 28 Conjunto 7, casa 18 - Lago Sul, Brasília DFF - 71.670-270, Brazil. Email: t.kind@terra.com.br
 Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr Pedro Oliveira, 4th fl., 484 Kent St., Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia. Email: indopres@austheos.org.au
 Pan-African Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr Tom Davis, 22 Buffels Road, Rietondale 0084, Pretoria, South Africa. Email: thosgdavis@icon.co.za

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Mr Paul Zwollo, International Theosophical Centre, Valkeveenselaan 19, NL - 1411 GT Naarden, The Netherlands (for 2004, 2005 and 2006)

Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Điêu , 67 Rue des Pommiers, F-45000 Orléans, France (for 2005, 2006 and 2007)

Miss Joy Mills, 22 Krotona Hill, Ojai, CA 93023, USA (for 2005, 2006 and 2007)

Mr Surendra Narayan, B - 91 Greater Kailash I, New Delhi 100 048, India (for 2005, 2006 and 2007)

Mr Curt Berg, Mirabellbacken 11, SE - 165 61 Hässelby, Sweden (for 2005, 2006 and 2007)

Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind, SHIS QI 28 Conjunto 7, Casa 18 - Lago Sul, Brasilia DFF - 71.670-270, Brazil (for 2005, 2006 and 2007)

Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez, Transversal 19, No.61-32 Bogotá 2, Colombia (South America) (for 2006, 2007 and 2008)

Mr. Conrad Jamieson, Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai 600 020, India (for 2006, 2007 and 2008)

MINUTES

of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society
held on Saturday, 25 December 2005, at Adyar

P R E S E N T

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, and Gabriel Burgos Suarez</i>
Dr John Algeo	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Mexico, Sweden, United States and Joy Mills</i>
Miss Keshwar Dastur	<i>Treasurer</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Secretary and proxy for Argentina and Germany</i>
Mr Claude Robertson-Dunn	<i>General Secretary, East and Central Africa</i>
Mrs Susan Kaschula	<i>General Secretary, South Africa</i>
Mrs Linda Oliveira	<i>General Secretary, Australia</i>
Mr Colin Price	<i>General Secretary, England</i>
Mr Kalevi Dunder	<i>General Secretary, Finland</i>
Mrs Nano Leguay	<i>General Secretary, France</i>
Mr Gisli Jonsson	<i>General Secretary, Iceland</i>
Mr S. Sundaram	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mr Antonio Girardi	<i>General Secretary, Italy</i>
Mr Conrad Jamieson	<i>Additional Member and proxy for W. Africa and New Zealand</i>
Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Additional Member</i>
Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Điêu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Spain and Curt Berg</i>
Mr Paul Zwollo	<i>Additional Member and proxy for the Netherlands</i>

Present by invitation as Observers:

Dr C. V. Agarwal	<i>Presidential Representative, South-East Asia</i>
Dr Dusan Zagar	<i>Organizing Secretary, Slovenia</i>
Ms Eliane Gaillard	<i>Presidential Representative, Switzerland</i>
Mrs Els Reineker	<i>Board Member, TS in the Netherlands</i>
Mrs Alicia Beatriz Salinas	<i>National Council Member, TS in Argentina</i>
Mrs Parvati Soepangat	<i>Indonesia</i>

The President warmly welcomed those present.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held at Adyar on 25 December 2004 had been circulated. They were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

These were dealt with under the relevant items.

3. Confirmation of Voting

(a) Amendments to Rules 35(a) and 36(d) of the TS:

Amendments to Rules 35(a) and 36(d) had been circulated and the majority of votes were in favour of the amendments. However, as several comments and questions had arisen from some members of the General Council, it was decided that more thought and discussion are required and that the proposed amendments be kept pending for further discussion.

(b) Amendment to Rule 44 (a) of the Rules and Regulations of the TS on Vesting of Property of National Society or Lodge (amendment in italics):

‘ . . . in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge (Branch) coming under Rule 31(c), except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge (Branch) is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest (as hereinafter provided) and delivery shall be made to the President or to his nominee on his behalf.

All the assets and property, real or personal, of such National Society or Lodge (Branch) shall be held in trust for the work of the Theosophical Society in the land of that National Society or Lodge (Branch).

Results of the voting:

For	Against	Abstained	Total
29	2	2	33

The amendment was therefore adopted.

(c) Re-election of Miss Keshwar Dastur as Treasurer for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008

The President had nominated Miss Keshwar Dastur for re-election as Treasurer under Rule 13 of the Rules and Regulations for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008.

The result of the voting was as follows:

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

For	Against	Abstained	Total
32	-	1	33

Miss Keshwar Dastur was declared re-elected Treasurer for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008.

(d) Re-election of Mr Conrad Jamieson and Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez as Additional Members for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008

The President had nominated Mr Conrad Jamieson and Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez under Rule 2(b) of the Rules and Regulations for re-election as Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008.

The results of the voting were as follows:

	For	Against	Abstained	Total
Mr Conrad Jamieson	33	-	-	33
Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez	33	-	-	33

Mr Conrad Jamieson and Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez were declared re-elected Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008.

4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee

The Secretary reported that grants of US\$ 426 and 1,820 had been paid towards the publication of a Chinese translation of *At the Feet of the Master* and for a Sinhalese translation of *At the Feet of the Master* and a booklet titled *Olcott and the Buddhist Revival in Sri Lanka* respectively.

5. Report of the International Finance Committee

The Secretary presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ended 30 September 2005. It was decided to make a donation of US\$ 1000 each to Togo and the Ivory Coast after obtaining necessary information.

6. Report by the President

The President made a report concerning the Headquarters at Adyar for the year ended 30 September 2005 and answered various questions.

7. Appointment of Executive Committee for 2006

The following were appointed members of the Executive Committee for 2006:

Mrs Radha Burnier	President)	
Dr John Algeo	Vice-President)	ex
Miss Keshwar Dastur	Treasurer)	officio
Miss Mary Anderson	Secretary)	
Mr Surendra Narayan	General Council Member		
Mr Conrad Jamieson	General Council Member		
Mr Sriram Panchu			
Dr C. V. Agarwal			
Mr S. Harihara Raghavan			
Miss Marlene Bell			

8. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2005

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2005, which had previously been circulated, were considered and adopted. The overall financial position of the Society remains satisfactory.

9. Budget for the year ending 31 March 2007

The Budget for the year ending 31 March 2007, which had previously been circulated, was considered and adopted.

10. Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2007

Messers Fraser and Ross, Chartered Accountants, were appointed auditors of the Theosophical Society for the year ending 31 March 2007.

11. Discussion on work around the World

(a) *Ireland*

At a meeting in August in Belfast presided over by the International Vice-President, a new Regional Association, 'The Theosophical Society in Ireland', was formed, comprising Lodges and members in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and it is slowly expanding. The former Dublin Lodge, which has alienated itself from the international Theosophical Society, is in possession of a valuable property, bequeathed to 'The Theosophical Society in Ireland' by the late Mrs Evelyn Hornidge, to be held by three trustees. Legal steps are being considered to regain possession of the property. A report from a lawyer specializing in trust matters is awaited and if it arrives in time, an adjourned meeting of the General Council will be held on 1 January.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

(b) Greece

The President visited Greece in the summer and found the work going on well there.

(c) Nordic Countries

The Nordic Workshop in Finland, presided over by the President, is bearing fruit. In Norway, two seminars are planned in Oslo and work is reviving in Bergen. In Sweden, it is planned to revive TS work in Gothenberg. The Swedish General Secretary is endeavouring to interest the members in Denmark (who are at present Fellows-at-Large attached to Adyar) and some others to revive the TS there.

(d) Sri Lanka

Pedro Oliveira, President of the Indo-Pacific Federation, visited Sri Lanka recently. Progress is being made slowly to strengthen the work.

(e) Togo and the Ivory Coast

The Regional Associations in those French-speaking African countries face serious economic and other difficulties.

(f) Puerto Rico

The Lodges and members in the Dominican Republic had been affiliated to the Puerto Rican Section for many years, but they were not allowed to vote at the last general assembly of members, causing much agitation. Now the TS in both the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico are Presidential Agencies, Puerto Rico having three Lodges and 62 members, while in the Dominican Republic there are two Lodges and 50 members.

(g) Switzerland

The number of members has fallen to 40, of whom only about ten are active, and there are only four groups, all in Geneva. Ms Eliane Gaillard has been appointed Presidential Representative and is working hard to revive the work.

12. Any Other Business

(a) World Congress

The next World Congress will be held in Italy, probably in 2010.

(b) Centenary of Colonel Olcott's Passing

The American Section is planning to celebrate this anniversary suitably. A new book containing articles and reminiscences of Colonel Olcott will be published by TPH, Adyar. The TS in Sri Lanka will also organize a celebration.

MINUTES

of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society
held on Sunday, 1 January 2006, at Adyar

P R E S E N T

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for Belgium, Brazil, Colombia and Gabriel Burgos Suarez</i>
Dr John Algeo	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Mexico, Sweden, United States and Joy Mills</i>
Miss Keshwar Dastur	<i>Treasurer</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Secretary and proxy for Argentina and Germany</i>
Mr Claude Robertson-Dunn	<i>General Secretary, East and Central Africa</i>
Mrs Susan Kaschula	<i>General Secretary, South Africa</i>
Mrs Linda Oliveira	<i>General Secretary, Australia</i>
Mr Colin Price	<i>General Secretary, England</i>
Mrs Nano Leguay	<i>General Secretary, France</i>
Mr Gisli Jonsson	<i>General Secretary, Iceland</i>
Mr S. Sundaram	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mr Antonio Girardi	<i>General Secretary, Italy</i>
Mr Conrad Jamieson	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Additional Member</i>
Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Điêu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Spain and Curt Berg</i>
Mr Paul Zwollo	<i>Additional Member and proxy for the Netherlands</i>

The Problem in Ireland

Mrs E. Hornidge, who had been General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Ireland since 1954, died in 1964, leaving a house in Dublin to the Trustees of the Theosophical Society in Ireland for use in the Society's educational and related activities. Subsequently, the four Lodges in the Section dwindled to one in Dublin, which came to think of itself as the Theosophical Society in Ireland and thus owner of the building which had become quite a valuable property. A few years ago, the chief officers of the Dublin Lodge began a process of separating themselves from the international Society. When the present new Regional Association was formed, uniting Lodges and members in the Republic and Northern Ireland, Dublin Lodge did not respond to an invitation to participate and has ceased to send membership dues to Adyar. Dublin Lodge has therefore ceased to be a Lodge of the Theosophical Society. The question of the ownership of the Dublin property is therefore a legal issue. The General Council authorized the President to consult legal advisers in Ireland and to take such action on their advice as she deems appropriate.

